#### TOWN OF SOUTH WINDSOR

Minutes

Page 1

July 20, 2020

## TOWN COUNCIL - REGULAR MEETING VIRTUAL MEETING

## 1. Call Meeting to Order

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

## 3. Roll Call

Members Present: Mayor Andrew Paterna

Deputy Mayor Liz Pendleton Councilor Audrey Delnicki Councilor Erica Evans

Councilor Mary Justine Hockenberry

Councilor Cesar Lopez Councilor Lisa Maneeley Councilor Janice Snyder

Members Absent:

Councilor Karen Lydecker

Others Present:

Michael Maniscalco, Town Manager

Vanessa Perry, Asst. Town Manager/Director of H.R. Scott Roberts, Asst. Town Manger/CIO/Emergency Mgmt.

#### 4. Mayor's Remarks

Mayor Paterna acknowledged the passing of two Civil Rights leaders, Congressman John Lewis and Reverend C. T. Vivian. Mayor Paterna offered the sympathies of the Council to Councilor Delnicki on the passing of her mother, and Emily Riley and her family on the passing of Matthew Riley, who was a former Council member and a former Board of Education member. Council members took a moment of silence in remembrance of all of these individuals.

## 5. Adoption of Agenda

Councilor Hockenberry made a motion to adopt the agenda as presented. Councilor Lopez seconded the motion.

Deputy Mayor Pendleton made a motion to amend the agenda by moving Item 17. A. after Item 5. Councilor Hockenberry seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously.

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

#### TOWN OF SOUTH WINDSOR

**Minutes** 

Page 2

July 20, 202<u>0</u>

#### ITEM:

## 6. Communications and Reports from Town Manager

Mr. Maniscalco reported on the following items:

## Flag Pole Report

An evaluation was done at the Wapping Community House to add three flag poles. It was found that it would be necessary to remove two trees, cleanup of the garden on the street side of the wall, and install a light. Town staff is currently pricing out the work. It has been determined through an evaluation that there is not enough room for two additional flag poles at the Community Center.

## STEAP Grant

STEAP Grant requirements have changed this year. The Town would be required to match the granted funds, and a project would need to be shovel ready. Staff is evaluating projects and will have a proposed project to write up for the application within the next week. Applications are due by the middle of August.

## Summer Camp/Parks Status

Mr. Ray Favreau reported that there are close to 130 campers a day that participate in the summer camp programs. The Town has not received State guidance for the reopening of the 4<sup>th</sup> R Program and is trying to coordinate with the Board of Education on schools re-opening. All of the Town parks are open, and residents have been doing a great job of using them safely. The VMP pool has been being used for the last couple of weeks but has not come close to reaching capacity.

## COVID-19

The Town of South Windsor had 199 identified cases of COVID-19, and presently, 198 of those individuals identified are past quarantine. The majority of the Town staff is back at work, and plexiglass is being put up to keep everyone safe. The Library has also been working to put plexiglass up and will be reviewing safety and cleaning protocols. The Library will be open Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., and Tuesday and Thursday from 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

## (Communications and Reports from Town Manager Continued on Next Page)

## **TOWN OF SOUTH WINDSOR**

**Minutes** 

Page 3

July 20, 2020

#### <u>ITEM:</u>

## 6. Communications and Reports from Town Manager (Continued)

Answering questions from the Council, Mr. Maniscalco explained that the Council would need to decide whether to take donations from the Republican Town Committee and Mr. Shepard for the flag poles. Councilor Delnicki stated that she feels accepting the donations would be a benefit because she does not want to see Town funds utilized towards this project.

The Town has done very well at sourcing PPE. Mr. Maniscalco said he would email the Council the amount that the Town has on hand presently. The Library has been sourcing out their own masks and gloves, but if they find that they need more, the Town could provide some. The Parks & Recreation Department also have their own PPE.

Mr. Maniscalco informed the Council that the State just recently released the STEAP Grant process. It is a tight timeline, so opening it up to the public would not be advantageous at this time. The project that is being looked at for submittal is for a large building to store equipment because it meets the requirements of the grant.

Mayor Paterna stated that in the past, the Town Manager has simply worked with Department Heads to apply for STEAP grants.

## 17. Executive Session

At 7:14 p.m., Deputy Mayor Pendleton made a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss pending claims and litigation (460 Miller Road). Councilor Hockenberry seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously.

The following individuals went into Executive Session: Mayor Paterna; Deputy Mayor Pendleton; Councilor Delnicki; Councilor Evans, Councilor Hockenberry; Councilor Lopez; Councilor Maneeley; Councilor Snyder; Attorney Richard Carella from Updike, Kelly & Spellacy, P.C.; Scott Roberts, Assistant Town Manager/CIO/Emergency Management; Vanessa Perry, Assistant Town Manager/Director of Human Resources; and Michael Maniscalco, Town Manager.

At 7:56 p.m., the Executive Session ended, and the Regular Meeting reconvened.

#### TOWN OF SOUTH WINDSOR

Minutes

Page 3

July 20, 2020

#### ITEM:

## 6. Communications and Reports from Town Manager (Continued)

Answering questions from the Council, Mr. Maniscalco explained that the Council would need to decide whether to take donations from the Republican Town Committee and Mr. Shepard for the flag poles. Councilor Delnicki stated that she feels accepting the donations would be a benefit because she does not want to see Town funds utilized towards this project.

The Town has done very well at sourcing PPE. Mr. Maniscalco said he would email the Council the amount that the Town has on hand presently. The Library has been sourcing out their own masks and gloves, but if they find that they need more, the Town could provide some. The Parks & Recreation Department also have their own PPE.

Mr. Maniscalco informed the Council that the State just recently released the STEAP Grant process. It is a tight timeline, so opening it up to the public would not be advantageous at this time. The project that is being looked at for submittal is for a large building to store equipment because it meets the requirements of the grant.

Mayor Paterna stated that in the past, the Town Manager has simply worked with Department Heads to apply for STEAP grants.

## 17. Executive Session

At 7:14 p.m., Deputy Mayor Pendleton made a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss pending claims and litigation (460 Miller Road). Councilor Hockenberry seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously.

The following individuals went into Executive Session: Mayor Paterna; Deputy Mayor Pendleton; Councilor Delnicki; Councilor Hockenberry; Councilor Lopez; Councilor Maneeley; Councilor Snyder; Attorney Richard Carella from Updike, Kelly & Spellacy, P.C.; Scott Roberts, Assistant Town Manager/CIO/Emergency Management; Vanessa Perry, Assistant Town Manager/Director of Human Resources; and Michael Maniscalco, Town Manager.

At 7:56 p.m., the Executive Session ended, and the Regular Meeting reconvened.

#### TOWN OF SOUTH WINDSOR

**Minutes** 

Page 4

July 20, 2020

## ITEM:

## 7. Public Input

Council members began discussions on whether emails should be read into the record.

Mr. Maniscalco explained that he was never under the impression that the emails would be read into public input. An email was sent out to the Council that stated that the emails would not be read any longer because they are in the way of the Town's business getting done. During the meeting, the Council would receive a summary of the emails, and a copy of the emails would be sent to the Council members. The emails would also be posted on the website with the minutes. Additionally, public comment is meant for the Council to see and understand, not for the rest of the community.

Councilor Snyder stated that this should be a discussion item at a later time. Councilor Snyder said she would not want to change what has been happening and suggested reading only the comments that come in from <a href="mailto:TownCouncilComments@southwindsor-ct.gov">TownCouncilComments@southwindsor-ct.gov</a>. Each comment that is sent in should be read for the five minute period.

Councilor Hockenberry requested that a discussion be held at a later meeting regarding public input.

Deputy Mayor Pendleton called for a Point of Order and stated that the Council is in Public Input at this time and would like to request that the emails be read into the record. A discussion item can be held at a future Council Meeting on how the Council would like to handle public input. The Town Manager can give the Council his recommendations at that time.

Mr. Maniscalco read the following emails into the record:

Jeff Trachtenberg (Exhibit A)
Ashwatha Narayana, (Exhibit B)
Gene Bolles (Exhibit C)
Elena Poma (Exhibit D)
Kathy Chiappetta (Exhibit E)
Ellen Rossley (Exhibit F)
Christopher Bernard (Exhibit G)
Christopher Bernard (Exhibit H)
Tom Hart (Exhibit I)
Stephen Wagner, 181 Tumblebrook Drive (Exhibit J)

#### TOWN OF SOUTH WINDSOR

**Minutes** 

Page 5

July 20, 2020

#### ITEM:

## 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 Meetings: Virtual Public Hearing Minutes of July 6, 2020; and Virtual Regular Meeting Minutes of July 6, 2020.

Was made by Councilor Hockenberry Seconded by Deputy Mayor Pendleton The motion passed on a roll call vote of 7 to 0 with Councilor Maneeley abstaining.

BE IT RESOLVED that the South Windsor Town Council hereby approves the Minutes of the following Town Council Meeting: Virtual Special Meeting Minutes of July 13, 2020.

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

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

Councilor Evans informed the Council that she had attended the Drive-In Movie that was hosted by the Park & Recreation Department. It was well put together, and very enjoyable.

## 10. Reports from Committees

Councilor Evans reported that the Black Lives Matter Sub-Committee held a virtual meeting on Thursday, July 16, 2020, at 4:00 p.m. The Sub-Committee met with Sydney Baker, Asli Awale, and Shay Young, who are representatives from the Black Lives Matter Movement. In the meeting, discussions consisted of the following: who should be included in the Committee; the need for support for diversity in the community; and roles of educators, Town employees, and elected officials. Councilor Snyder will be reaching out to the South Windsor Public Library to make sure the Library has literature on hand to help educate the community. The New Jim Crow Laws is a book that has been recommended to read.

(Discussion Continued on Next Page)

#### TOWN OF SOUTH WINDSOR

**Minutes** 

Page 6

July 20, 2020

## ITEM:

## 10. Reports from Committees (Continued)

Movie recommendations have included 13<sup>th</sup> and When They See Us on Netflix. Councilor Evans stated that she had ordered a book to read called White Fragility. In future meetings, the Committee is looking to schedule community conversations and public forums.

Councilor Maneeley stated that she thought the Sub-Committee was going to meet to establish a Mission Statement. The representatives from the Black Lives Matter Movement are looking to have more diversity in the Town Council and Board of Education, as well as changes in the staff and curriculum in the schools. The representatives also stated that they were not comfortable having a representative from the Police Department being a part of the Sub-Committee. Councilor Maneeley requested direction from the Council on whether a representative from the Police Department should be part of the Sub-Committee. Councilor Evans stated that she feels Committee members need to better educate themselves to get a better understanding of the concerns of the Black Lives Matter Movement representatives.

Councilor Snyder explained that the Sub-Committee is in the early stages and needs to institute its strategy moving forward. Councilor Snyder stated that it was very clear that the Black Lives Matter Movement does not think the police should be included in this Sub-Committee, but it may be beneficial to include the police later in the process. The Sub-Committee needs to get all of the permanent members onboard and needs to start reaching out with community forums and other things that the Committee decides upon.

Answering questions from the Council, Councilor Evans explained that it is her understanding that as a Sub-Committee, official minutes are not necessary. The Mission Statement or goals and objectives have not been established yet. Councilor Evans stated that she feels these items should come from the Sub-Committee members and not the Town Council members that are on the Sub-Committee.

Councilor Delnicki informed the Council that the Town of Cromwell has an established Committee and suggested reaching out to Cromwell for help with the Mission Statement and goals and objectives.

(Discussion Continued on Next Page)

## **TOWN OF SOUTH WINDSOR**

**Minutes** 

Page 7

July 20, 2020

## ITEM:

## 10. Reports from Committees (Continued)

Councilor Maneeley recommended another book for people to read. It is called Stamped: Racism, Antiracism, and You by Jason Reynolds.

Answering questions from the Council, Town Attorney Olson explained that minutes of this Sub-Committee is required based on the definition of a public agency. Minutes should support the matters that have been discussed and should include votes taken. If it is the Town's practice to post the minutes on the Town website, then these minutes should also be put on the Town's website. These meetings constitute a public meeting, so public access and transparency are required, but public participation is not required. To hold an Executive Session during a meeting, there are only precise limited reasons to go into Executive Session, so if there are sensitive items that the Sub-Committee wishes to discuss, if they do not meet the requirements of an Executive Session, those items will have to be discussed publicly. Attorney Olson recommended that if people are coming to the Sub-Committee and telling them sensitive information, the Sub-Committee Chairperson should advise them from the onset that they are subject to the FOI Act and everything they say could become public knowledge. Attorney Olson also informed the Council that because meetings are virtual at this time, and the public is not able to come to the meetings, the meetings are supposed to be broadcast live for the public to have access. The only way around not having a live meeting is to have one or two members discuss sensitive matters with a certain individual, and then those conversations can be reported to the other members.

Deputy Mayor Pendleton requested the Sub-Committee forward any links, books, movies, or anything that can help educate the Councilors to the Council Clerk.

Council members discussed having a Secretary for the Sub-Committee to do the minutes. Deputy Mayor Pendleton suggested that the Clerk of the Council help with the agendas and minutes.

## 11. Consent Agenda

None

#### TOWN OF SOUTH WINDSOR

Minutes

Page 8

July 20, 2020

#### ITEM:

## 12. Unfinished Business

A. Discussion item: Tax Abatement for 240 Ellington Road (requested by Town Manager Michael Maniscalco)

Mr. Maniscalco explained that this item would be an action item at the Special Meeting scheduled for Monday, July 27, 2020. Council members were emailed all of the financials for this tax abatement.

Answering questions from the Council, Mr. Maniscalco explained that a title search is being done. The Council will hold a public hearing at their Special Meeting on July 27, 2020, and a resolution will be on the agenda to decide on the transfer of property from the Town to Scannell Properties.

#### 13. New Business

A. Presentation: Park & Recreation Master Plan (requested by Deputy Mayor Pendleton and Councilor Evans) (Park & Recreation Commission to be present)

Mr. Mike Kelly, Vice-Chairperson of the Park & Recreation Commission, came forward and read a statement regarding the Park & Recreation Master Plan, as shown in attached **Exhibit K**. The current Master Plan is being reviewed by the Park & Recreation Commission and is approximately 85% through with the review. The Commission's commitment is to have the Master Plan to the Council by the end of this year. There were seven years that the Commission did not receive any funding to get any projects done. In the last three years, the Commission has had some funding. This year the Commission has received approximately \$200,000. Mr. Kelly reviewed the projects that these funds will be used for.

Deputy Mayor Pendleton requested that when the Master Plan is revised and completed projects are included in the plan, could the Park & Recreation Commission identify the projects as completed.

Mr. Favreau informed the Council that the Park & Recreation Commission is going to try to complete the Master Plan by the end of the year and bring it to the Town Council for approval.

(Discussion Continued on Next Page)

#### TOWN OF SOUTH WINDSOR

**Minutes** 

Page 9

July 20, 2020

#### ITEM:

## 13. A. (Continued)

Mr. Kelly explained to the Council that the Commission would have to decide on whether to have a consultant come in and review the Master Plan. Mr. Favreau stated he would take full responsibility for not pursuing a paid consultant. Funding was part of the issue, and the second issue is that the plan that the Town currently has is not implementable. The Park & Recreation Commission has learned to focus on what can be accomplished. Discussions regarding hiring a consultant can be held at the next Park & Recreation Commission meeting, but funding would have to be found.

Mr. Favreau then informed the Council that both the Commission and administration come up with ideas and will have conversations about them. At a Commission meeting, it is decided on how to move forward with any ideas. Mr. Kelly explained that the Commission had done multiple public surveys to understand what the public wants. Mr. John Caldwell added that the Park & Recreation Commission does what is best for the Town.

B. Discussion Item: Public Response Regarding the Public Hearing, which began on July 6, 2020, at 8:00 p.m. and closed on July 9, 2020, at 4:30 p.m. Regarding the Use of Absentee Ballots for the General Election in November 2020 (requested by Mayor Paterna)

Mayor Paterna announced the results of a Straw Vote as follows:

Those supporting the use of Absentee Ballots for the General Election in November 2020: 11

Those opposed to the use of Absentee Ballots for the General Election in November 2020: 5

C. Resolution Supporting the Use of Absentee Ballots for the General Election in November 2020

#### TOWN OF SOUTH WINDSOR

**Minutes** 

Page 10

July 20, 2020

#### ITEM:

## 13. C. (Continued)

WHEREAS, there currently is a global pandemic of Coronavirus (COVID-19), and, COVID-19 is spread from person-to-person through contact with a person, surface or object that has the virus on it; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19 can be particularly severe for older adults and people of any age who have serious underlying medical conditions, and, there are currently no effective vaccines or treatments available to the public for COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, in-person voting carries a greater risk of spreading disease than voting via absentee ballot, and, no person should be required to risk their health in order to exercise their right to vote; and

WHEREAS, absentee voting offers a proven method of secure voting that reduces the risk of transmission of COVID-19 by allowing individuals to vote by mail and by reducing the density of in-person voting at polling places; and

WHEREAS, Governor Lamont issued Executive Order No. 7QQ, which allows any eligible elector to vote by absentee ballot for the August 11, 2020, primary election if an individual is unable to appear at his or her polling place during the hours of voting due to serious concerns about COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, it is important that this change in the definition of reasons for using absentee ballots due to the risk posed by the COVID-19 also be applied to the General Election in November 2020

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the South Windsor Town Council will hereby send a letter to Governor Lamont in support of expanding the use of Absentee Ballots in the November 2020 General Election and calls on the Governor and General Assembly to adopt the changes to absentee voting procedures made by Governor Lamont in Executive Order No. 7QQ for the November General Election and appropriate funds to municipalities to defray the increased cost of holding elections during the pandemic; and

#### TOWN OF SOUTH WINDSOR

**Minutes** 

Page 11

July 20, 2020

## ITEM:

## 13. C. (Continued)

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Town Council calls on the General Assembly to (1) convene in special session for the purpose of adopting a joint resolution to amend the State Constitution to permanently allow any elector to vote by absentee ballot for any reason and (2) submit such joint resolution to the popular vote for ratification in the November election.

Was made by Councilor Lopez Seconded by Councilor Hockenberry

Councilor Delnicki stated that the General Assembly is going in to talk about this, but the General Assembly cannot change the State Constitution without coming to the voters for a vote. The last time this item was voted on, it failed with 52% of the votes not wanting change to the State Constitution for mail-in ballots. Councilor Delnicki stated she would be voting no on this resolution.

Mayor Paterna called for a vote on the motion, it passed on a roll call vote of 5 to 3 with Mayor Paterna, Deputy Mayor Pendleton, Councilor Evans, Councilor Hockenberry, and Councilor Lopez voting in favor; and Councilor Delnicki, Councilor Maneeley, and Councilor Snyder voting in opposition.

# D. Resolution Waiving Competitive Bidding for the Lease/Purchase of Two (2) Vehicles for the South Windsor Police Department

WHEREAS, the approved 2020/2021 budget included the leasing of two (2) vehicles for the Police Department; and

WHEREAS, the Police went through the normal RFP process, but only received one response for a lease buyout for Dodge vehicles; and

WHEREAS, the Police Department wishes to stay with a Ford-based vehicle per the recommendation of the Town's Fleet Manager and because Ford has offered a lease/purchase

#### TOWN OF SOUTH WINDSOR

**Minutes** 

Page 12

July 20, 2020

## ITEM:

## 13. D. (Continued)

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the South Windsor Town Council hereby waives competitive bidding for the lease/purchase of two (2) Ford Explorers; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the South Windsor Town Council authorizes Town Manager Michael Maniscalco to sign an agreement and any necessary documents on behalf of the Town of South Windsor to secure the lease/purchase of two (2) vehicles for the South Windsor Police Department.

Was made by Councilor Delnicki Seconded by Deputy Mayor Pendleton

Mr. Maniscalco explained to the Council that because of COVID-19, the production of a lot of vehicles was stopped for a period of time, and as a result, there is a significant shortage of different types of vehicles. The Town usually purchases vehicles off of the State Contract, which gives the Town the opportunity to get the best prices that are out there based on what was negotiated by the State. Unfortunately, when the Police Department went out with an RFP for a Ford, they only got a response from Dodge because they could not find any Fords that were being offered on the State Contract, so they decided to go to a dealership to get them. The price is a couple of hundred dollars more than the State Contract, but it is not a huge amount of money.

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

# E. Resolution Approving the Transfer of \$2,000 from the Contingency Account to the South Windsor Mini-Grant Professional Account

BE IT RESOLVED that the South Windsor Town Council hereby approves the transfer of \$2,000 from the Contingency Account to the South Windsor Mini-Grant Professional Account to cover costs associated with the Citizens Matching Mini-Grant program.

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

#### TOWN OF SOUTH WINDSOR

**Minutes** 

Page 13

July 20, 2020

#### ITEM:

## 13. New Business (Continued)

F. Resolution Approving a "South Windsor Citizen Matching Mini-Grant Program" Donation Request from the Wood Memorial Library Association

WHEREAS, the South Windsor Town Council created a "South Windsor Citizen Matching Mini-Grant Program" on June 20, 2005; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Jessica Glass, who is the President of the Wood Memorial Library Association has submitted a proper application for matching funds in the amount of \$5,000 and Kathy Kerrigan, who is the Secretary of the Board of the Wood Memorial Library and Fundraising Chair, is in the process of raising funds to replace the antiquated and malfunctioning security and fire systems at the Wood Memorial Library & Museum; and

WHEREAS, the total cost for this project is \$10,116, and the amount raised to date by the Wood Memorial Library Association is \$5,000; and

WHEREAS, Town Manager Michael Maniscalco and Town Attorney Kari Olsen have reviewed and approved this project and application and has determined that it meets the criteria of the "South Windsor Citizen Matching Mini-Grant Program"

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the South Windsor Town Council hereby authorizes Town Manager Michael Maniscalco to issue \$5,000 of matching funds to the Wood Memorial Library Association from the "South Windsor Citizen Matching Mini-Grant Program" to help fund this project.

Was made by Deputy Mayor Pendleton Seconded by Councilor Maneeley

Mrs. Deborah Reid, Clerk of the Council, explained to the Council that Deputy Mayor Pendleton had read a different amount for the total cost of the project than what was originally included in the resolution because when Wood Memorial Library submitted their application for the Citizen Matching Mini-Grant, they only had an estimate. Since that time, Wood Memorial has received invoices with the correct cost of the project.

#### TOWN OF SOUTH WINDSOR

**Minutes** 

Page 14

July 20, 2020

## ITEM:

## 13. F. (Continued)

Mr. Maniscalco informed the Council that after reviewing the guidelines for the Citizen Matching Mini-Grant Program, he has found that it is at the discretion of the Council how much they would like to award to a certain project. The Council can award more than the actual matching amount.

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

G. Resolution Setting a Virtual Public Hearing to Receive Citizen Input on a Proposal to Quit claim a Utility Parcel at 240 Ellington Road to Scannell Properties

BE IT RESOLVED that the South Windsor Town Council hereby sets **Monday, July 27, 2020, at 7:15 p.m.**, as the time to hold a Virtual Public Hearing to receive citizen input on a proposal to quit claim a utility parcel at 240 Ellington Road to Scannell Properties for economic development purposes.

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

H. Discussion Item: Painting of any Symbols or Slogans on Town Property (requested by Councilor Snyder, Councilor Delnicki, and Town Manager Michael Maniscalco)

Councilor Snyder stated that there had been quite a bit of controversy with the painting currently residing on the Town property between the Library and Town Hall. She explained that she had received several calls from constituents requesting that when the present painting on the driveway is cleared up that they are allowed to have the Thin Blue Line painted to support the Police. Councilor Snyder stated that she feels the Town should not allow anything painted on Town property. Councilor Snyder then suggested that when the three flag poles are put on at the Wapping House, instead of taking the Town flag down to put up organizational flags, the Town Council should consider flying the organizational flags under the Town flag.

(Discussion Continued on Next Page)

## TOWN OF SOUTH WINDSOR

**Minutes** 

Page 15

July 20, 2020

## ITEM:

## 13. H. (Continued)

Answering questions from the Council, Attorney Olson explained that the key is to make sure that if the Town is going to allow any type of signage, banner, or statement on public property, it should be government speech which means it needs to be adopted by a majority of the Council members. If the Town is going to allow a flag on the Town's flag pole, somebody from the Council should propose it for the Council to vote on. It should be by majority rule that it is going to be a statement by the Council that is consistent with their policies and procedures, and objectives for the Town that the flag, even for a temporary period, is being adopted as government speech to avoid constitutional challenges. Now, as far as the painting on the driveway or parking lot, the Town should have a policy in place where a Council member proposes what is happening, and a majority of the Council votes in favor of adopting whatever that statement is as government speech. If the Town allows one group to write something, the Town will have to allow another group to write something, unless the Town adopts it as government speech on Town property. Attorney Olson stated that she feels this is a slippery slope and feels it is something that requires significant consideration on the part of the Council, but her advice to the Council going forward would be the Council should adopt a policy for this type of thing, whether the policy says the Town is not going to allow painting on any parking lots or driveways, or if it is a policy that says the Town will only allow painting on Town property through adoption by the Council as government speech.

Answering further questions, Attorney Olson explained that she could not promise the Council that nobody will sue the Town. If the Town Council approves the writing on the Town Hall driveway as government speech, that is the most protection that the Town can be offered.

## 14. Passage of Ordinance

None

## 15. Public Input

None

#### TOWN OF SOUTH WINDSOR

Minutes

Page 16

July 20, 2020

#### ITEM:

## 16. Communications from Council

None

## 17. Executive Session

At 10:14 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) (124 and 150 Chapel Road), to discuss the possible purchase of real estate for the Town pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §1-210 (b) (7) (Desmond Duck Pond), to discuss the possible purchase of real estate for the Town pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §1-210 (b) (7) (137 Pheasant Way), and to discuss personnel issues (Annual Evaluations of Michael Maniscalco, Town Manager and Deborah Reid, Clerk of the Council). Councilor Lopez seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously.

The following individuals went into Executive Session: Mayor Paterna; Deputy Mayor Pendleton; Councilor Delnicki; Councilor Evans, Councilor Hockenberry; Councilor Lopez; Councilor Maneeley; Councilor Snyder; Scott Roberts, Assistant Town Manager/CIO/Emergency Management; Vanessa Perry, Assistant Town Manager/Director of Human Resources; and Michael Maniscalco, Town Manager.

At 10:55 p.m., the Executive Session ended.

## 18. Adjournment

At 10:55 p.m., Councilor Maneeley made a motion to adjourn the Regular Meeting. Councilor Hockenberry seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah W. Reid Clerk of the Council

## Requesting smart, reasonable, safe and sound zoning laws for bee hives

Trachtenberg, Jeff [Jeff.Trachtenberg@henryschein.com]

Sent:

Tuesday, July 14, 2020 8:37 AM

PlanningZoningComments; TownCouncilComments, To:

Attachments: HiveLocationOwnershipandMa~1.pdf (22 KB); Zoning Ellington Zoning Re~1.pdf (757 KB); Zoning New Britain Sec.\_6\_~1.doc (41 KB);

Zoning West Hartford Zonin~1.pdf (35 KB)

South Windsor Town Council South Windsor Planning and Zoning Commission Exhibit A

I write to strongly suggest and encourage that our Town consider, enact and implement an ordinance/regulation to address the important issue of maintaining safe, reasonable and fair management standards for beekeeping in our residentially zoned areas. Minimum standards have already been established in many other local communities for the benefit of the bees, the beekeepers and neighbors on property adjoining the location of the hives. Given the increased interest in apiaries in our Town and the concerns raised by their establishment on residential property without implementation of minimum standards for their management, I respectfully submit it is time for South Windsor to establish its own standards for the residential community.

While the State of Connecticut has enacted a few basic laws regarding bees, those laws essentially address the requirement of a beekeeper to register if that beekeeper has at least one hive and making those bees available for inspection for contagious diseases (Conn. Gen. Stat. Sections 22-89 and 22-90). The State has left further oversight to bee management to individual communities given the benefit of but concomitant danger associated with maintaining bee hives in populous areas (see, e.g., zoning laws of Ellington, New Britain and West Hartford below). Currently, and unlike many other communities, South Windsor has no ordinance or regulation directly regulating bee management with specificity. Although it does have several ordinances that I note below that are or may be relevant, the lack of specific guidelines and regulation creates too much risk and uncertainty to bees, beekeepers and their neighbors. This issue is an important and recurring one that, it is respectfully submitted, requires prompt consideration and action.

To be sure, bees, like honey bees, provide many useful benefits including nectar and pollen and other useful products and services. But they are also wild animals. Allowing the maintenance of bees in populated residential areas should strike a balance between a beekeeper's beneficial desire to manage bees and related hives and the need to avoid being a nuisance or danger to their neighbors. These latter concerns are particularly acute and the need to promote safe beekeeping practices while ensuring the wellbeing and safety of children and individuals with life threatening allergies to bees in today's age cannot be overstated.

Without any established requirements for beekeeping within residentially zoned areas as presently exists in South Windsor, there are presently no limits or guidance from the Town on (1) hive location; (2) the maximum number of bee hives; (3) flight path and (4) hive density. Indeed, when one considers that there are no education requirements and certifications required for beekeepers, no limitations on maintenance of distance between an apiary, on the one hand, to side yards, swimming pools, structures or rear yards of neighbors, on the other hand, no prohibitions from maintaining an aplary in a front yard, no limitations on flight path, no requirements for water sources and their locations for the bees and no proportionality between the number of hives and the size and location of an apiary, the risk to the bees and also to the neighborhood is abundantly clear.

Given the increased interest in apiaries in residential areas and as the father of young children (in addition to my life threatening allergy to bees), I believe there is an urgent and immediate need for safe practices for beekeeping in the form of a Town ordinance Implementing minimum management practices for beekeeping in residential areas is important to improve the safety and wellbeing of our community while balancing the needs and interests of beekeepers with their neighbors and to reduce potential conflict with neighboring property owners who are often adversely impacted. For those with allergic reactions and young children, this could be a life or death decision.

For your consideration, I will be referencing our state websites governance on bee ownership "Hive Location, Ownership, and Management of Bee Colonies in Connecticut" as well as local ordinances from New Britain, West Hartford and Ellington as well as South Windsor Town Ordinances.

https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/CAES/DOCUMENTS/Bee/HiveLocationOwnershipandManagementofBeeColoniesinConnecticutpdf.pdf? la=en

Some areas of consideration for the health and safety for our residents and their family and friends:

- 1. As stated in the Hive Location Ownership correspondence "Be very careful in areas where children might play." Please take into consideration of an ordinance where playscapes and other children activities might be located.
- 2. As stated in the Hive Location Ownership "beekeepers in urban and suburban areas should provide a continuing source of clean water for their bees. This should be placed within 25-50 feet hives."
- 3. "Honeybees are considered wild animals. It may be prudent to contact an insurance company to determine insurance coverage for bee stings." As stated in this memo bees are wild animals and I, as well as other family and friends, are allergic to bees. This could be a life or death decision on the part of planning and zoning and the town council.
- 4. Per SW municipal code "Sec. 12-2. Definitions "Public nuisance means any animal that endangers the life or health of persons or other animals, or substantially interferes with the rights of citizens, other than their owners, to enjoyment of life or property." Please keep in mind the location of the hives and number of hives to property lines. Again, people are allergic to bees and some people are deathly allergic.
- 5. Municipal code "Sec 12-3 It shall be unlawful for any person to keep any animal on any property located within the town when the keeping of such animal constitutes a public nuisance or menace to public health or safety." Please keep in mind the location and number of the hive to property lines.

Based on ordinances and management practices that I have reviewed in Connecticut and some other states, I would respectfully suggest the following best management practices for apiaries in a residential zone include at least the following:

- A. Location. Hives should be a minimum of at 25 feet from any side or rear property line, at least 60 feet from a swimming pool or preexisting kenneled animal, and at least 25 feet from any structure. Encourage selection of a discrete site away from neighboring property lines.
- B. Maximum Number of Hives. Based on acreage, 1-4 colonies per lot
- C. Flightpath. Hive entrances should face away from the closest adjacent property and in such a direction that the bees fly across the beekeeper's property at sufficient distance to gain a height of at least the six feet at the property line. Barriers may be utilized to redirect the bees flight

pathway and establish bee flight pathways above six feet.

- D. Water Source. Ensure there is a water source reasonably close to the hives on the beekeeper's property and shall be located closer to the hive than any water source on adjacent property.
- E. Enforcement. There should be some method of reasonable but appropriate enforcement of the ordinance/regulation.

By understanding the circumstances under which bees will create hazards and pose a nuisance and risk to people, the Town can assist beekeepers to alter circumstances so their bees do not create a problem and yet provide the beekeepers with the benefits they seek and value from the hives.

Below are a few ordinances from some local communities (Ellington, New Britain and West Hartford) that I noted above for your review.

Thank you in advance for your consideration on these smart, reasonable, sound and safe zoning laws. It is the neighborly thing to do.

Jeff Trachtenberg 36 Simcka Dr South Windsor CT

Exhibit A

#### **Ellington**

## **Section 7.14 Agricultural Uses**

- F. Keeping of Bees: (Added 5-23-16, Effective 6-15-16)
- a. Minimum Lot Size: The keeping of bees shall be allowed on any property greater than or equal to 30,000 square feet.
- b. **Setbacks and Permitting Requirements:** Beehives shall be a minimum of 10 feet from all property lines or conform to the setback requirements of the underlying zone, whichever is greater and shall be a minimum of 25 feet from any dwelling on abutting properties.
- c. Management: An adequate on-site source of water for the bees shall be provided.

New Britain Exhibit A

Sec. 6-37. - Residential keeping of honeybees.

The keeping of one (1) or more colonies of the common domestic honeybee, Apis mellifera, shall be a permitted accessory use. Colonies include a hive and its equipment and appurtenances including bees, comb, honey, pollen and brood.

- (1) Standards.
  - a. Maximum number of colonies on a property shall be as follows:
    - 1. One-quarter (1/4) acre or less—two (2) colonies including up to two (2) nuclei.
    - 2. More than one-quarter (%) acre—four (4) colonies and up to three (3) nuclei.
    - More than one-half (½) acre to one (1) acre—six (6) colonies and up to six (6) nuclei.
    - 4. More than one (1) acre to one and one-half (1½) acre—eight (8) colonies and up to five (5) nuclei.
    - More than one and one-half (1½) acre—ten (10) colonies and up to five (5) nuclei.
  - b. Colonies shall be located away from road, walkways, or rights-of-way as follows:
    - Four (4) colonies or less—minimum of twenty-five (25) feet from all property lines.
    - 2. More than four (4) colonies—minimum of fifty (50) feet from all property lines
  - c. Beekeeping and production of honey under this section shall not be used for commercial purposes.
  - d. A flyway barrier of at least six (6) feet in height must shield any part of a property line within fifty (50) feet of a colony. The flyway barrier may consist of a wall, fence, dense vegetation or a combination thereof, such that honeybees will fly over rather than through the material to reach the colony.
  - e. An on-site source of fresh water shall be provide and shall be located closer to the hive than any water source on adjacent property.

#### **West Hartford**

#### § 177-12. Keeping of honeybees.1 [Added 6-13-2017]

The keeping of one or more colonies of the common domestic honeybee, Apis mellifera, shall be a permitted accessory use in those districts specified under § 177-6C, Item 28 of the Schedule, subject to the following:

A. Standards.

- (1) The minimum lot size required for beekeeping shall be 6,000 square feet.
- (2) The maximum number of colonies shall be subject to the following limitations:

#### **Zoning District**

#### Maximum No. of Permitted Colonies Per Lot

| R-6                 | 1 |
|---------------------|---|
| R-10, R-13 and R-20 | 2 |
| R-40                | 3 |
| R-80                | 4 |

- (3) All colonies shall be located in rear yards and shall be located not less than 20 feet from any property line.
- (4) A flyway barrier of at least six feet in height must shield any part of a property line within 50 feet of a colony. The flyway barrier may consist of a wall, fence, dense vegetation or a combination thereof, such that honeybees will fly over rather than through the material to reach the colony.
- (5) An on-site source of fresh water shall be provide and shall be located closer to the hive than any water source on adjacent property.

Jeff and Heather Trachtenberg

36 Simcka Dr

South Windsor

Please consider the environment before printing this email.

E-mail messages may contain viruses, worms, or other malicious code. By reading the message and opening any

attachments, the recipient accepts full responsibility for taking protective action against such code. Henry Schein is not liable for any loss or damage arising from this message.

The information in this email is confidential and may be legally privileged. It is intended solely for the addressee(s). Access to this e-mail by anyone else is unauthorized.

Exhibit A

## **Revenue Collector**

Ashwatha Narayana [ashwa37@gmail.com] Sent: Wednesday, July 15, 2020 8:06 AM To: TownCouncilComments,

Exhibit B

Dear Council Members,

I recently paid my property tax bill in full by my personal check. I did not send the bill or a self addressed stamped envelope for a receipt. To my surprise, I received a receipt from the Tax Office within a few days. This shows how efficient and dedicated the Tax Collector and her staff are. Perhaps you will let them know the tax payer's appreciation for their dedication to duty. Thanks for your time.

Ashwatha Narayana 12 Jonathan La South Windsor, Ct 06074

Exhibit C

## **Town Hall Parking Lot**

Gene Bolles [genebolles@gmail.com]

Sent:

Sunday, July 19, 2020 7:26 PM

TownCouncilComments, To:

Attachments:IMG\_20200718\_184449326\_HDR.jpg (6 MB); IMG\_20200718\_184605807.jpg (9 MB)

"I would like this read into the record".

Council Members,

The town of South Windsor should not be displaying partisan political symbols on the town hall parking lot. The clenched fist is particularly offensive as it represents violence and we have seen enough violence across this country lately. Black Lives Matter is a fund raiser for the democrat party. This offensive symbol should be removed immediately.

South Windsor has a history of not allowing Christmas decorations and Nativity scenes during the Christmas season on town property so why is this political symbol allowed on the Town Hall parking lot?

I anticipate the Town Council will do the right thing for all the people.

Thank You, Gene Bolles

## **BLM** painting

Elena Poma [eap1119@sbcglobal.net] **Sent:**Sunday, July 19, 2020 11:07 AM To: TownCouncilComments,

Exhibit D

## Dear council members,

As individuals you are free to choose what organization you want to belong to and support. We voted you into office to represent our interests, not the interest of an organization. In choosing to paint BLM at the front entrance of Town Hall, you open the door for other organizations to make the same request and be treated equally. Having their name painted at the entrance of a public, tax payer supported building is unacceptable. This is a place where all should feel welcome and included. Therefore, I am asking for the removal of BLM painting. Thank you.

Sincerely, Elena Poma

Sent from my iPhone

## **Town Council Comments to be Read into the record**

Katherine Chiappetta [kathygc@ntplx.net] Sent:Saturday, July 18, 2020 5:59 PM To: TownCouncilComments,

Exhibit E

"I would like my comments read into the record".

Dear Mayor and Town Councilors,

I don't like the Yellow BML paint job at Town Hall and would dislike it no matter what it the statement involved. It's ugly and draws attention to South Windsor. We have all observed with the mayors of Seattle, Minneapolis, Portland the negative results of groveling for appearement to rioters.

As far as the Flag, Keep up US Flag and CT Flag and MIA and let the various groups get together and decide how to showcase their flags NOT ON TOWN PROPERTY. The could do a Go Fund Me project to buy some private property and make a nice little park with many representative flags.

How can we support the Police at this time? They are taking risks and getting abused. Can't be easy for them to investigate the murder of a little black girl who was watching TV with her grandparents, a toddler killed in a stroller, and many others. Also to be injured by rioters because they are told to stand down. Defunding the Police is the most ridiculous idea ever. Those who think they are elite can pay for private security, but once the core of a city is demolished, the looters and rioters move out in concentric circles. Who is going to want to take a bullet to protect the "elite"? Blue Lives Matter.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Kathy Chiappetta

Concerned citizen

ELLEN ROSSLEY [efr37@cox.net]
Sent:Friday, July 17, 2020 12:44 PM

To: TownCouncilComments,

Exhibit F

As a concerned citizen of the town of South Windsor. I am offended that the town chooses to keep the BLACK LIVES MATTER painted in front of the TOWN HALL. I have been a resident of the town for the last 56 years and have paid my taxes every year. I am not prejudiced of any group, whether it be ethnic, race, religious, or anything else. I feel ALL LIVES MATTER and you should think more about your decision to keep the painting there. Hoping to see it removed.

Thank You, Ellen Rossley

## video proof of bats being delivered used to injure NYPD for 'PEACEFUL **PROTESTS**"

Christopher Bernard [cbernard8344@outlook.com]

Exhibit G

Sent:Thursday, July 16, 2020 8:49 AM

To: TownCouncilComments,

Cc: Sen. Anwar, Saud [Saud.Anwar@cga.ct.gov]; Cain, Sean [Sean.Cain@cga.ct.gov]; Maniscalco, Michael

Here is proof of the fact that the Mayor of South Windsor who declares BLM is a 'peaceful' protest group is misleading and a lie:

https://nypost.com/2020/07/16/protesters-got-shipment-of-bats-before-brooklyn-bridge-brawl-video/

if you think it will not happen here then your all idiots.

Christopher J Bernard LLC (860) 424-6056

## BLM reaps what it sows

Christopher Bernard [christopherlandscapingct@outlook.com]

Sent:Wednesday, July 15, 2020 2:14 PM

To: TownCouncilComments,; Town of South Windsor CT [cmsmailer@civicplus.com]

Exhibit H

I am glad to see that the town of South Windsor supports an organization that says it does peaceful protests yet why do you always see his police officers being hurt and killed small children killed by gun shots blacks killing blacks blacks looting stores churches officers statues monuments this is what you all want you reap what you sow now if that's the kind of world do you want so be it

I actually hope some of you who support these killings and lootings have something happen to your family members and the police turn their back on you that would be karma

Christopher J Bernard LLC Christopher Landscaping HIC #0636685

## **BLM** in parking lot at Town Hall.

TOM HART [tchart103@yahoo.com]
Sent:Wednesday, July 15, 2020 1:18 PM
To: TownCouncilComments,

Exhibit I

It is beyond belief that this painting was allowed in the driveway of the Town Hall...It is shameful that the town elected members let this happen and allow it to stay there. It should be removed as soon as possible..

And who ever did thjis should be arrested for defacing Town property, period.

Thanks you for attention in this important matter.

Tom Hart Former Commander SWPS.

## Reid, Deborah

From:

TownCouncilComments,

Sent:

Monday, July 20, 2020 8:17 PM

To:

Reid, Deborah

Subject:

FW: Energy Committee Report - Update on Virtual Net Metering Savings

Please print and bring in to Mike. TY

From: Stephen Wagner-SW [wagnersg-sw@outlook.com]

Sent: Monday, July 20, 2020 5:43 PM

To: TownCouncilComments,

Cc: Jaime Smith

Subject: Energy Committee Report - Update on Virtual Net Metering Savings

Hello, Mayor Anwar, Deputy Mayor Pendleton, Counselors and Town Manager Maniscalco,

You may recall that a few months ago, I reported that the electric rates for July-December 2020 had fallen enough, due to the impact of global energy politics and the pandemic, that the NorCap South Virtual Net Metering project would lose about \$750 between July and December 2020 after paying contracted minimum prices to the project owner, Lodestar. The original projections were for the project to save \$30-\$40,000 during that period. That also led to renegotiations of the floor price paid to Lodestar Energy for the upcoming Powder Hill project.

The situation has changed significantly. I learned last week that PURA has allowed Eversource to raise its Transmission and Distribution charges enough that the project will now generate about \$6,000 in savings rather than running at a loss for the town. That also helps the project meet its lifetime savings projection of \$1.5 million.

Unfortunately, those same rate increases will impact the price we pay on all our electricity accounts. At least we will have the savings to offset some of those changes.

While I have your attention, let us step back and look at the big picture. While the Town only engages in energy efficiency and energy generation projects if we anticipate net savings to the Town's taxpayers, it is worth remembering that our participation contributes to the global fight against climate change.

Economists estimate that eliminating a ton of CO2 or equivalent emissions saves the nation between \$50 and \$130 in health, disaster, food, air conditioning and many other costs. While it takes a couple years to work off the carbon costs of constructing and eventually decommissioning a solar project, a project like NorCap South or Powder Hill, which generates

about 1,200,000 kWh per year will offset 935 tons (US) of CO2 every year thereafter. The economic value to the nation of this offset is thus between \$46,000 and \$120,000 per year.

Our savings on solar projects are only possible because of incentives built into the federal tax code and state policies like net metering and virtual net metering. But the benefits to the nation will be huge as more and more states, localities, homeowners and businesses do their part to reduce carbon emissions.

And now I have a request.

The Energy Committee has not been able to meet since March. As I participate in virtual meetings on the Planning and Zoning Commission and the Water Pollution Control Authority, I see how much IT staff time is invested in each meeting. I can't imagine being able to provide IT staff support for virtual meetings of committees, task forces and other entities. I am hoping that we can find a way for these other organizations to meet while minimizing the cost of dedicated staff support.

Sincerely,
Stephen Wagner
Chair, South Windsor Energy Committee
181 Tumblebrook Dr
South Windsor, CT 06074
860-648-4434 (h)
860-490-8764 (m)

Exhibit J

July 20, 2020

Mayor Paterna Members of the Town Council Town of South Windsor 1540 Sullivan Avenue South Windsor CT. 06074

#### Dear Mayor Paterna:

As stipulated in the Book of Ordinances Article II, Section 74-32(b) this document serves as the Park and Recreation Commission's (PARC) official response to the Town Council's inquiry regarding an update on the master plan of development for parks & recreation.

The Town of South Windsor book of ordinances Chapter 74 Parks & Recreation, Section 74-32 specifically identifies the duties of the Park & Recreation Commission as follows:

- (a) The park and recreation commission shall, either on its own initiative or in response to specific requests from the town council or the recreation director, make reports or recommendations to the council or the recreation director concerning the initiation, development, maintenance or administration of recreational programs for the town, and the acquisition, development, use and maintenance of public parks, playgrounds, swimming pools or other recreational facilities.
- (b) Notwithstanding the foregoing, all recreation related proposals involving the acquisition and/or development of public parks, playgrounds, swimming pools or other recreational facilities shall be referred directly to the park and recreation commission for its review and comment. The commission shall within 60 days thereafter, make its recommendations to the town council in the form of a written advisory report. No formal action shall be taken on the proposed unless and until the town council has received the park and recreation commission's advisory report or the 60 days for commission action has expired, whichever is sooner.

(Code 1978, § 2-702; Ord. No. 200, 3-3-14; Ord. No. 200, Corr., 3-3-14, eff. 3-13-14)

Under these described duties the master plan is the responsibility of the Park & Recreation Commission with guidance and assistance from the park & recreation department. The master plan is a long-term plan of development for parks & recreation for the community. The evolution of the "Master Plan" or "Strategic Plan" has come a long way since its birth in November of 1963. Affectionately known as the "Allen Report" this was the first plan written for the town of South Windsor regarding its parks and recreation improvement plan. Thirty-three years later, the town of South Windsor produced a document called the "Park and Recreation Commission Strategic Plan" in March of 1996. Then only five years after, the Parks and Recreation Commission Master Plan was created in March of 2001. This Council adopted plan was accomplished with professional consultation by Vollmer Associates (now Stantec) and is still technically the current plan. That exercise cost the town \$30,000 over the course of nearly 18 months and created a dynamic document with over \$22 million in projects and improvements that could ebb and flow with changing trends and needs. A number of unsuccessful multi-million dollar referenda aimed at accomplishing identified projects in the plan forced the Commission to re-assess their financial strategy to achieve implementation realizing that the general public was not supportive of large

 $\label{lem:content.outlook} C:\Users\deborahwreid\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\INetCache\Content.Outlook\I1VHWOQE\PARC\ Master\ Plan\ Update\ to\ Council\ 7-20-2020.docx$ 

projects that would increase the Town's debt service (see Appendix A). As such they created annual master plan updates in the form of a ten-year excel spreadsheet to try to implement lower cost, more affordable pieces of the master plan by priority and submit proposals to the Capital Projects Committee for funding consideration. This approach has been somewhat successful by utilizing a combination of CIP funds (for a number of years an annual allocation of \$150,000), private donations and grants. A seven year dry spell where no new funding was allocated towards master plan implementation significantly stifled progress. Despite that, the Commission continued to develop a list of projects to submit to the Capital Projects Committee in good faith after re-prioritizing items each year as needs changed and opportunities arose through matching grants, donations or partnerships. As a result you will see a number of project taken out-of-order or not specifically listed in the plan, although great efforts are taken to anticipate needs. A chronological listing of successfully completed projects can be viewed in Appendix B.

The current major updating exercise has been started and halted a number of times over the past few years due to meeting attendance issues with the Commission and membership fluctuations. The 2001 plan is out-of-date and currently under revision completely in-house by the Commission and Parks & Recreation Department without the involvement of a paid consulting firm. Major interruptions not-withstanding, our goal is to complete the revisions by the end of the 2020 calendar year and submit for Council adoption.

The master plan is created, modified and maintained by the Park & Recreation Commission and implemented by the Parks & Recreation Department on their behalf.

Items on the master plan are reviewed each year, typically in the early Fall, by the Park & Recreation Commission and individual items or projects may be removed or added based on relevancy or necessity due to changes in trends, user patterns and needs. There actually are two needs for capital funding: 1) The Park & Recreation Commission - funding to implement the master plan for improvements to the parks & recreation infrastructure, and 2) The Parks & Recreation Department - funding beyond the annual operating budget to solve problems or make improvements to the operation.

Please advise if you have any questions. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Michael Kelly

Michael Kelly

Park & Recreation Commission Vice Chair

Cc: Ray Favreau, Director of Parks & Recreation; John Caldwell, Parks Superintendent

C:\Users\deborahwreid\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\INetCache\Content.Outlook\I1VHWOQE\PARC Master Plan Update to Council 7-20-2020.docx

## Appendix A

## Parks & Recreation Referenda

| Year | Description   | Cost   | Voting Result |  |
|------|---|--|---------------|--|
|      |   | The second secon |               |  |
| 1998 | Renovation of VMP & New<br>Recreation Center w/<br>indoor aquatics  | \$7,600,000  | Failed        |  |
|      |   | Section 1.5 And the section of the s |               |  |
| 2000 | Renovation of VMP   | \$3,100,000  | Passed        |  |
|      |   |  |               |  |
| 2001 | Build new Recreation Center w/ indoor aquatics  | \$4,900,000  | Failed        |  |
|      |   |  |               |  |
| 2002 | (a) Develop Lawrence Road Park - \$1,500,000 (b) Build new Baseball field at Nevers Park - \$400,000 (c) Build athletic field complex at the I-291 corridor - \$3,025,000 | \$4,925,000  | Failed        |  |
|      |   | The second secon |               |  |
| 2012 | Expansion of Community Center   | \$1,500,000  | Failed        |  |
|      |   |  |               |  |

Appendix B Successfully Completed Parks & Recreation Projects

| Year | Location                      | Item   | Cost      | C.I.P.<br>Funds | Private Funds                                      | Other<br>Public<br>Funds             |
|------|-------------------------------|--|-----------|-----------------|--|--------------------------------------|
| 2004 | Rye St. Park                  | Construction – 2 soccer fields   | \$281,000 | \$261,000       | \$ 20,000 SWSC                                     | X                                    |
| 2005 | Nevers Park                   | Renovate Nevers 1 Baseball   | \$ 44,674 | \$ 44,674       | X  | X                                    |
| 2005 | Nevers Park                   | Pavilion Roof replacement  | \$ 11,200 | X               | X  | \$ 11,200<br>Spec. Rev.<br>Rec. Fund |
| 2007 | Nevers Park                   | Bark Park  | \$135,000 | \$35,000        | \$100,000<br>community<br>donations & in-<br>kind  | X                                    |
| 2007 | Nevers Park                   | Construction-My Friends Place  | \$403,000 | X               | \$303,000<br>community<br>donations/grants<br>SWCF | \$ 70,000<br>Spec. Rev.<br>Rec. Fund |
| 2008 | Rye St. Park                  | Construct 2 football/lacrosse fields                                       | \$250,000 | X               | X  | \$250,000<br>STEAP<br>Grant          |
| 2008 | Rye St. Park                  | Architectural plans for shelter  | \$ 11,000 | \$11,000        | X  | X                                    |
| 2008 | Nevers Park                   | Construction-Jacob's View  | \$ 20,000 | X               | \$20,000<br>Golf 4 Kids<br>Foundation              | X                                    |
| 2008 | Lawrence<br>Rd. Park<br>(LRP) | Park construction/bid documents  | \$ 56,600 | \$ 56,600       | X  | X                                    |
| 2009 | Rye St. Park                  | Construction – concession/restroom/storage shelter                         | \$195,393 | \$172,086       | \$ 20,000<br>Panther<br>Football                   | \$ 3,307<br>Spec. Rev.<br>Rec. Fund  |
| 2010 | Nevers Park                   | Indoor Batting Cage  | \$200,000 | \$ 25,000       | \$175,000<br>community<br>donations/grants         | X                                    |
| 2011 | LRP/TEMS                      | Bobcat to create trails -<br>\$30,000 / repair tennis<br>courts — \$13,000 | \$ 43,000 | \$ 43,000       | X  | Х                                    |
| 2011 | Town-wide                     | SWW&WW – 3 connector paths   | \$ 12,715 | \$ 12,715       | X  | X                                    |
| 2012 | V.M.P.                        | Water Features   | \$ 27,389 | \$ 27,389       | X  | X                                    |

 $C:\Users\deborahwreid\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\INetCache\Content.Outlook\I1VHWOQE\PARC\ Master\ Plan\ Update\ to\ Council\ 7-20-2020.docx$ 

| Year  | Location    | Item                                      | Cost        | C.I.P.<br>Funds | Private Funds  | Other<br>Public<br>Funds                                     |
|-------|-------------|---|-------------|-----------------|--|--|
| 2013  | Nevers Park | Irrigation — soccer/lacrosse              | \$ 30,000   | X               | X  | \$ 30,000<br>In-house<br>operating<br>budget over<br>2 years |
| 2013  | LRP         | Parking lot construction                  | \$ 15,000   | X               | \$15,000 Lawrence Rd re-construction Contractor donation | X  |
| 2014  | Nevers Park | Construct Skate Park phase                | \$103,000   | \$103,000       | X  | X  |
| 2014  | Town-wide   | SWW&WW Bike Trailer & Fleet               | \$ 22,320   | \$ 22,320       | X  | X  |
| 2016  | Ayers Road  | Construction – new Little<br>League Shack | \$200,000   | \$100,000       | \$100,000 SW<br>Little League                            | X  |
| 2017  | Nevers Park | Kevin's Kourt – Bankshot<br>basketball    | \$ 60,000   | \$ 5,000        | \$ 52,300<br>community<br>donations/grants<br>SWCF       | \$ 2,700<br>In-house<br>operating<br>budget                  |
| 2018  | Ayers Road  | Re-align/construct softball               | \$200,000   | \$100,000       | Х  | \$100,000<br>BOE   |
| 2018  | V.M.P.      | Construct Rotary Pavilion II              | \$230,000   | \$100,000       | \$130,000<br>SW Rotary<br>Club                           | X  |
| 2019  | Nevers Park | Year-round restrooms                      | \$246,610   | \$127,110       | \$119,500<br>SW Rotary<br>Club                           | X  |
| 2019  | Nevers Park | Construct Skate Park phase                | \$182,045   | \$150,000       | X  | \$ 32,045<br>Cap.Reserve                                     |
| 2020  | Deming St.  | Create Community Gardens                  | \$ 7,000    | X               | \$ 5,000<br>CT Water Grant                               | \$ 2,000<br>In-house<br>operating<br>budget                  |
|       |             |   |             |                 |  |  |
| TOTAL |             |   | \$2,986,946 | \$1,395,894     | \$1,059,800  | \$ 501,252   |