

**TOWN OF CROMWELL BOARD OF FINANCE  
SPECIAL MEETING  
MONDAY, APRIL 10, 2023 6:00 pm  
CROMWELL LIBRARY – BELDEN ROOM  
MEETING MINUTES**

RECEIVED FOR RECORD  
May 03, 2023 09:01A  
JoAnn Doyle  
TOWN CLERK  
CROMWELL, CT *JD*

PRESENT: Chairman John Ireland, Vice Chairman Steve Wygonowski, Brian Stermer, Matthew Blanchette, Ed Maley, Anne Hulick, Julia Aurigema

NOT PRESENT: Dan Kelly

ALSO PRESENT: Town Manager Anthony Salvatore, Director of Finance Sharon DeVoe, Police Chief Denise Lamontagne, Captain Fred Sifodaskalakis, Public Works Director Lou Spina, Library Director Kara Canney

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman John Ireland called the meeting to order at 6:00PM

SEAT ALTERNATES : Steve Wygonowski made a motion to seat Anne Hulick for Dan Kelly; seconded by Matthew Blanchette. **ALL IN FAVOR. MOTION PASSES.** Steve Wygonowski made a motion to seat Julia Aurigema for Ed Maley; seconded by Anne Hulick. **ALL IN FAVOR. MOTION PASSES**

**DISCUSSION AND DECISION OF THE 2023-2024 PROPOSED BUDGET**

**BUDGET LINE #36 POLICE DEPARTMENT**

Steve Wygonowski made a motion to appropriate the Police Department budget of \$3,952,555; seconded by Brian Stermer. Police Chief Denise Lamontagne and Captain Fred Sifodaskalakis presented the Police budget. Discussion followed. **ALL IN FAVOR. MOTION PASSES**  
Ed Maley entered the meeting at 6:14PM

**BUDGET LINE #37 ANIMAL CONTROL**

Matthew Blanchett made a motion to appropriate the Animal Control budget of \$95,128; seconded by Steve Wygonowski. **ALL IN FAVOR. MOTION PASSES.**

**CNR APPROVAL**

Brian Stermer made a motion to appropriate \$15,000 for a records storage unit out of the general expense budget; seconded by Matthew Blanchette. **STEVE WYGONOWSKI, BRIAN STERMER, MATTHEW BLANCHETTE, ANNE HULICK AND JOHN IRELAND VOTED IN FAVOR. ED MALEY OPPOSED. MOTION PASSES**

Matthew Blanchette made a motion to appropriate \$28,000 for Electronic Aiming Devices out of the general expense budget; seconded by Steve Wygonowski. **STEVE WYGONOWSKI, BRIAN STERMER, MATTHEW BLANCHETTE, ANNE HULICK AND JOHN IRELAND VOTED IN FAVOR. ED MALEY OPPOSED. MOTION PASSES**

Steve Wygonowski made a motion to appropriate \$211,500 from ARPA Funds for police vehicles; seconded by Brian Stermer. **STEVE WYGONOWSKI, BRIAN STERMER, MATTHEW BLANCHETTE, ANNE HULICK AND JOHN IRELAND VOTED IN FAVOR. ED MALEY OPPOSED. MOTION PASSES**

**BUDGET LINE #27 PUBLIC WORKS**

Steve Wygonowski made a motion to appropriate the Public Works Admin budget of \$4,770,507; seconded by Ed Maley. Public Works Director, Lou Spina, presented the budget. Discussion followed. **ALL IN FAVOR. MOTION PASSES.**

## **CNR APPROVAL**

Steve Wygonowski made a motion appropriate \$450,000 from ARPA Funds for a radio system for Public Works; seconded by Matthew Blanchette. **STEVE WYGONOWSKI, MATTHEW BLANCHETTE, ANNE HULICK AND JOHN IRELAND VOTED IN FAVOR. BRIAN STERMER AND ED MALEY OPPOSED. MOTION PASSES.**

Steve Wygonowski made a motion to appropriate \$100,000 from ARPA Funds for upgrades to the Town's Topographic Maps; seconded by Matthew Blanchette. **STEVE WYGONOWSKI, MATTHEW BLANCHETTE, ANNE HULICK AND JOHN IRELAND VOTED IN FAVOR. BRIAN STERMER AND ED MALEY OPPOSED. MOTION PASSES.**

Steve Wygonowski made a motion to appropriate \$300,000 from ARPA Funds for Road Improvements; seconded by Matthew Blanchette. **STEVE WYGONOWSKI, MATTHEW BLANCHETTE, ANNE HULICK AND JOHN IRELAND VOTED IN FAVOR. BRIAN STERMER AND ED MALEY OPPOSED. MOTION PASSES.**

Steve Wygonowski made a motion to appropriate \$75,000 for a 400 Leaf Vacuum out of the general expense budget; seconded by Mathew Blanchette. **STEVE WYGONOWSKI, BRIAN STERMER, MATTHEW BLANCHETTE, ANNE HULICK AND JOHN IRELAND VOTED IN FAVOR. ED MALEY OPPOSED. MOTION PASSES**

Steve Wygonowski made a motion to appropriate \$50,000 for 2 leaf boxes out of the general expense budget; seconded by Matthew Blanchette. **STEVE WYGONOWSKI, BRIAN STERMER, MATTHEW BLANCHETTE, ANNE HULICK AND JOHN IRELAND VOTED IN FAVOR. ED MALEY OPPOSED. MOTION PASSES**

Steve Wygonowski made a motion to appropriate \$16,000 out of ARPA Funds for the Senior Dining Room/Kitchen Floor; seconded by Matthew Blanchette. **STEVE WYGONOWSKI, MATTHEW BLANCHETTE, ANNE HULICK AND JOHN IRELAND VOTED IN FAVOR. ED MALEY AND BRIAN STERMER OPPOSED. MOTION PASSES**

Matthew Blanchette made a motion to appropriate \$50,000 for Senior Center Flooring out of the ARPA Funds; seconded by Steve Wygonowski. **STEVE WYGONOWSKI, MATTHEW BLANCHETTE, ANNE HULICK AND JOHN IRELAND VOTED IN FAVOR. ED MALEY AND BRIAN STERMER OPPOSED. MOTION PASSES**

Steve Wygonowski made a motion to appropriate \$108,875 from ARPA Funds for the Police Station Roof; seconded by Matthew Blanchette. **STEVE WYGONOWSKI, BRIAN STERMER, MATTHEW BLANCHETTE, ANNE HULICK AND JOHN IRELAND VOTED IN FAVOR. ED MALEY OPPOSED. MOTION PASSES**

Steve Wygonowki made a motion to appropriate \$160,000 from ARPA Funds for a 16 foot Diesel Mower; seconded by Matthew Blanchette. **STEVE WYGONOWSKI, MATTHEW BLANCHETTE, ANNE HULICK AND JOHN IRELAND VOTED IN FAVOR. ED MALEY AND BRIAN STERMER OPPOSED. MOTION PASSES**

Steve Wygonowski made a motion to appropriate \$150,000 from ARPA Funds for the Pavilion at Watrous Park; seconded by Matthew Blanchette. **STEVE WYGONOWSKI, MATTHEW BLANCHETTE, ANNE HULICK AND JOHN IRELAND VOTED IN FAVOR. ED MALEY AND BRIAN STERMER OPPOSED. MOTION PASSES**

Steve Wygonowski made a motion to appropriate \$40,000 out of the general expense budget for the Franklin and McRossen field renovations; seconded by Matthew Blanchette. **STEVE WYGONOWSKI, BRIAN STERMER, MATTHEW BLANCHETTE, ANNE HULICK AND JOHN IRELAND VOTED IN FAVOR. ED MALEY OPPOSED. MOTION PASSES**

Steve Wygonowski made a motion to appropriate \$100,000 out of ARPA funds for a sanitary Sewer Study; conded by Matthew Blanchette. Discussion followed. **ALL OPPOSED. MOTION FAILS.**

## **BUDGET LINE #42 YOUTH SERVICES**

Steve Wygonowski made a motion to appropriate the Youth Services budget of \$113,172; seconded by Matthew Blanchette. Discussion followed on staffing and salaries. **ALL IN FAVOR. MOTION PASSES.**

**BUDGET LINE #44 LIBRARY**

Steve Wygonowski made a motion to appropriate the Library budget of \$690,975; seconded by Matthew Blanchette. Steve Wygonowski made a motion to table this matter; seconded by Matthew Blanchette. **ALL IN FAVOR. MOTION PASSES.**

**BUDGET LINE #1 TOWN MANAGERS OFFICE**

Steve Wygonowski made a motion to appropriate the Town Manager's Office budget of \$421,255; seconded by Matthew Blanchette. Discussion followed on staffing and salaries. **ALL IN FAVOR. MOTION PASSES.**

**BUDGET LINE #44 LIBRARY**

Steve Wygonowski made a motion to appropriate the Library budget of \$690,975; seconded by Matthew Blanchette. Library Director, Kara Canney helped with questions. Discussion followed. **ALL IN FAVOR MOTION PASSES.**

**BUDGET LINE #2 TOWN CLERK**

Steve Wygonowski made a motion to appropriate the Town Clerk budget of \$225,761; seconded by Brian Stermer. **ALL IN FAVOR. MOTION PASSES.**

**BUDGET LINE #3 ELECTIONS DEPARTMENT**

Steve Wygonowski made a motion to appropriate the Elections Department budget of \$84,951; seconded by Brian Stermer. **ALL IN FAVOR. MOTION PASSES.**

**BUDGET LINE #4 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

Steve Wygonowski made a motion to appropriate the Economic Development budget of \$121,543; seconded by Brian Stermer. **ALL IN FAVOR. MOTION PASSES.**

**BUDGET LINE #4A REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY**

Steve Wygonowski made motion to appropriate the Redevelopment Agency budget of \$900; seconded by Brian Stermer. **ALL IN FAVOR. MOTION PASSES.**

**BUDGET LINE #5 DEVELOPER/PLANNER**

Steve Wygonowski made a motion to appropriate the Developer/Planner budget of \$147,981; seconded by Brian Stermer. **ALL IN FAVOR. MOTION PASSES.**

**BUDGET LINE #6 DEVELOPMENT COMPLIANCE**

Steve Wygonowski made a motion to appropriate the Development Compliance budget of \$116,125; seconded by Brian Stermer. **ALL IN FAVOR. MOTION PASSES.**

**BUDGET LINE #7 BUILDING INSPECTION**

Steve Wygonowski made a motion to appropriate the Building Inspection budget of \$224,935; seconded by Brian Stermer. **ALL IN FAVOR. MOTION PASSES.**

**BUDGET LINE #8 FINANCE DEPARTMENT**

Steve Wygonowski made a motion to appropriate the Finance Department budget of \$424,379; seconded by Brian Stermer. **ALL IN FAVOR. MOTION PASSES.**

**BUDGET LINE #9 TAX COLLECTOR**

Steve Wygonowski made a motion to appropriate the Tax Collector budget of \$164,975; seconded by Brian Stermer. **ALL IN FAVOR. MOTION PASSES.**

**BUDGET LINE #10 ASSESSORS OFFICE**

Steve Wygonowski made a motion to appropriate the Assessor's Office budget of \$253,058; seconded by Brian Stermer. **ALL IN FAVOR. MOTION PASSES.**

#### **BUDGET LINE #12 DONATIONS AND DUES**

Steve Wygonowski made a motion to appropriate the Donations and Dues budget of \$50,060; seconded by Brian Stermer. Ed Maley made a motion to amend the motion to increase the donations to the Arts Alliance and the Creative District by \$500 each; seconded by Steve Wygonowski. **ALL IN FAVOR. MOTION PASSES.** Steve Wygonowski made a motion to appropriate the Donations and Dues budget of \$51,060; seconded by Brian Stermer. **ALL IN FAVOR. MOTION PASSES.**

#### **BUDGET LINE #13 LEGAL EXPENSES**

Steve Wygonowski made a motion to appropriate the Legal Expenses budget of \$232,100; seconded by Brian Stermer. **ALL IN FAVOR. MOTION PASSES.**

#### **BUDGET LINE #14 CENTRAL SERVICES**

Steve Wygonowski made a motion to appropriate the Central Services budget of \$211,925; seconded by Brian Stermer. **ALL IN FAVOR. MOTION PASSES.**

#### **BUDGET LINE #15 INSURANCE EXPENSES**

Steve Wygonowski made a motion to appropriate the Insurance Expenses budget of \$620,330; seconded by Brian Stermer. **ALL IN FAVOR. MOTION PASSES.**

#### **BUDGET LINE #17 TOWN COUNCIL**

Steve Wygonowski made a motion to appropriate the Town Council budget of \$2,400; seconded by Brian Stermer. **ALL IN FAVOR. MOTION PASSES.**

#### **BUDGET LINE #18 BOARD OF FINANCE**

Steve Wygonowski made a motion to appropriate the Board of Finance budget of \$41,867, seconded by Brian Stermer. **ALL IN FAVOR. MOTION PASSES.**

#### **BUDGET LINE #20 CHARTER REVISION COMMITTEE**

Steve Wygonowski made a motion to appropriate the Charter Revision Committee budget of \$3,000; seconded by Brian Stermer. Steve Wygonowski made a motion to amend the motion to revise the budget to have \$250 in wages and \$250 in departmental expenses lowering the budget to \$500, seconded by Brian Stermer. **ALL IN FAVOR. MOTION PASSES. A SECOND VOTE WAS TAKEN TO APPROPRIATE THE CHARTER REVISION COMMITTEE BUDGET OF \$500. ALL IN FAVOR. MOTION PASSES.**

#### **BUDGET LINE #21 BOARD OF ASSESSMENT APPEALS**

Steve Wygonowski made a motion to appropriate the Board of Assessment Appeals budget of \$1,100; seconded by Brian Stermer. Steve Wygonowski made a motion amend the motion by lowering the wages to \$400 and departmental expenses to \$200, lowering the budget to \$600. **ALL IN FAVOR. MOTION PASSES. A SECOND VOTE WAS TAKEN ON THE AMENDED MOTION. ALL IN FAVOR. MOTION PASSES.**

#### **BUDGET LINE #22 COMMITTEE TO SUPPORT DISABLED**

Steve Wygonowski made a motion to appropriate the Committee to Support Disabled budget of \$100; seconded by Brian Stermer. **ALL IN FAVOR. MOTION PASSES.**

#### **BUDGET LINE #23 PLANNING AND ZONING COMMITTEE**

Steve Wygonowski made a motion to appropriate the Planning and Zoning Committee budget of \$3,525, seconded by Brian Stermer. **ALL IN FAVOR. MOTION PASSES.**

#### **BUDGET LINE #24 ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS**

Steve Wygonowski made a motion to appropriate the Zoning Board of Appeals budget of \$1,250; seconded by Brian Stermer. **ALL IN FAVOR. MOTION PASSES.**

#### **BUDGET LINE #25 INLAND WETLANDS**

Steve Wygonowski made a motion to appropriate the Inland Wetlands Budget of \$1,900; seconded by Brian Stermer. **ALL IN FAVOR. MOTION PASSES.**

**BUDGET LINE #26 CONSERVATION COMMITTEE**

Steve Wygonowski made a motion to appropriate the Conservation Committee budget of \$1,210; seconded by Brian Stermer. **ALL IN FAVOR. MOTION PASSES.**

**CNR APPROVAL**

Steve Wygonowski made a motion to appropriate \$35,500 from General Expense for a vehicle; seconded by Brian Stermer. **STEVE WYGONOWSKI, BRIAN STERMER, MATTHEW BLANCHETTE, ANNE HULICK AND JOHN IRELAND VOTED IN FAVOR. ED MALEY VOTED OPPOSED. MOTION PASSES**

Ed Maley made a motion to amend the motions to transfer all amounts that have been appropriated out of Capital Non Recurring approved out of General Expense to ARPA Funds subject to Town Council approval. **STEVE WYGONOWSKI, BRIAN STERMER, ANNE HULICK, ED MALEY AND JOHN IRELAND VOTED IN FAVOR. MATTHEW BLANCHETTE OPPOSED. MOTION PASSES TO AMEND THE MOTION.**

Ed Maley made a motion to clarify to appropriate \$1,789,875 for the projects previously seen this evening to the ARPA fund, seconded by Steve Wygonowski. **STEVE WYGONOWSKI, BRIAN STERMER, ANNE HULICK, ED MALEY AND JOHN IRELAND VOTED IN FAVOR. MATTHEW BLANCHETTE OPPOSED. MOTION PASSES.**

**BUDGET LINE #16 GENERAL EXPENSE**

Steve Wygonowski made a motion to appropriate the general expense budget of \$15,002; seconded by Brian Stermer. **ALL IN FAVOR. MOTION PASSES.**

**BUDGET LINE #45 EMPLOYEE BEBEFITS**

Steve Wygonowski made a motion to appropriate the Employee Benefits budget of \$4,294,415; seconded by Brian Stermer. **ALL IN FAVOR. MOTION PASSES.**

Steve Wygonowski made a motion to appropriate \$18,262,011 for the fiscal year 24 General Fund; seconded by Brian Stermer. **ALL IN FAVOR. MOTION PASSES.**

**BUDGET LINE #46 DEBT SERVICES**

Steve Wygonowski made a motion to appropriate the Debt Services budget of \$3,131,059; seconded by Brian Stermer. Discussion followed. Matthew Blanchette made a motion to amend the motion to approve the Debt Services budget of \$3,131,059 with the inclusion of the 1.8 million in self funded debt with the intention to use that to apply toward the Middle School debt incurred or will be incurred; seconded by Brian Stermer. **STEVE WYGONOWSKI, BRIAN STERMER, MATTHEW BLANCHETTE, ANNE HULICK AND ED MALEY VOTED IN FAVOR. JOHN IRELAND OPPOSED. MOTION PASSES.**

Steve Wygonowski made a motion to lower the Debt Services \$3,031,059, seconded by Ed Maley. **ED MALEY AND BRIAN STERMER VOTED IN FAVOR. ANNE HULICK, MATTHEW BLANCHETTE AND JOHN IRELAND OPPOSED. MOTION FAILS.**

**ANNE HULICK, ED MALEY, BRIAN STERMER, MATTHEW BLANCHETTE AND JOHN IRELAND VOTED IN FAVOR. STEVE WYGONOWSKI OPPOSED. THE AMENDED MOTIO PASSES.**

Ed Maley made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Brian Stermer. **ALL IN FAVOR.**  
Meeting Adjourned at 11:29PM

Respectfully Submitted,

*Sara Kennedy*

Sara Kennedy