

TOWN OF CROMWELL
TOWN COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 9, 2015
7:00 PM TOWN HALL ROOM 224/5

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TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE
CROMWELL, CONN.


TOWN CLERK

MINUTES

Present: Mayor E. Faienza, Deputy Mayor R. Newton, Councilors F. Emanuele,
A. Waters, T. Tokarz, E. Wenners, S. Slade

Absent:

Also Present: Town Manager A. Salvatore, Chief of Police D. LaMontagne, Public Works
Director L. Spina, Director of Finance M. Sylvester

A. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Faienza called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m.

B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Tom Tokarz led the Pledge of Allegiance.

C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor Faienza added the following items to the agenda;

Q. Appointments, #5. Zoning Board of Appeals a. Mark Zampino, Alternate and #6.
Regional Mental Health Board a. Diane Mongold.

Motion made by F. Emanuele seconded by S. Slade and *unanimously carried*
to approve the amendments to the agenda.

Motion made by A. Waters seconded by T. Tokarz and *unanimously carried* to
approve the agenda as amended.

D. EXECUTIVE SESSION

1. Land Acquisition Strategy
 - a. Action if necessary
2. Lease of Property -Boat Club
 - a. Action if necessary.

Town Manager Salvatore was invited into Executive Session for both items. Public
Works Director Spina and Finance Director Sylvester were invited in for item one.

Motion made by R. Newton seconded by F. Emanuele and *unanimously carried*
to adjourn to Executive Session at 7:09 p.m.

Motion made by F. Emanuele seconded by E. Wenners and *unanimously carried*
to come out of to Executive Session at 8 p.m.

*R. Newton and A. Waters recused themselves from item 2 and left the Executive
Session.*

1. Land Acquisition Strategy
 - a. Action if necessary

No action taken.

2. Lease of Property -Boat Club

a. Action if necessary

Motion made by F. Emanuele seconded by S. Slade and *carried* to extend the Cromwell Outboard Association lease from July 1, 2016 until December 31, 2016 for the amount \$1,500.

Aye: T. Tokarz, F. Emanuele, E. Faienza, E. Widders, S. Slade

Abstained: R. Newton, A. Waters

E. COMMISSION CHAIRMAN REPORTS/LIAISON REPORTS

Paul Sousa, Board of Education Liaison updated the Council on recent Board of Education activity.

F. CITIZEN COMMENTS

1. A. Varricchio, Kowal Dr. -Gave history regarding the Transfer Station and asked the Council to reconsider charging residents an annual fee of \$25.00 to use the Transfer Station. He feels as though if a splash pad can be purchased there shouldn't be a charge for using the Transfer Station.
2. S. Stachura, Geer St. - Disappointed that the Council extended the COA lease because the Redevelopment Agency and Economic Development Commission are working toward Riverfront Improvement.
3. A. Varricchio, Kowal Dr. -Added comments to his previous presentation.

G. MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Faienza reported:

Mayor Faienza commented on Mr. Varricchio's and Mr. Stachura's statements during Citizen Comments;

Mr. Varricchio; The Splash Pad was paid for out of bonding funds. The Transfer Station will continue to accept brush, oil and antifreeze for free without punching the card. The \$25.00 fee is nominal compared to what other town's charge. We had a free bulky waste pickup this fall and hope to have another pickup in the future. For the records; this town does as much as they can for the residents.

Mr. Stachura; the boat club extension is only for 6 months it will not hinder any plans that the Redevelopment Agency or Economic Development Commission may have for the future. In all fairness it wouldn't be right to have the lease expire mid-season.

- The Business Tours continue; the next tour will be Carey Manufacturing, 5 Pasco Hill Road on December 16th at 10:30 a.m.
- Joy Hollister has been reappointed as Cromwell's Municipal Agent.
- A new Charter Revision Commission will be appointed next year. We need to do this every 5 years; the last Charter Revision Commission was appointed in 2010.
- A public information session regarding the proposed Verizon Tower on Cromwell Concrete property was held on November 30; it was hosted by Verizon.

- The Middlesex Chamber is hosting a grand opening ceremony for Kuyi Sushi on Tuesday December 15th at 4 p.m., at 34 Shunpike Road.
- The Winter Wonderland Party and Tree Lighting Ceremony will be on Saturday December 12th at 4:30 p.m. at the Cromwell Town Hall.
- The Cromwell Division of the Chamber is at 7:30 a.m. on December 10th at the Coles Road Firehouse and is sponsored by Arborio Brothers.

H. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

Town Manager Salvatore reported:

- There is a vacancy on the Redevelopment Agency due to Mr. Tokarz's resignation. He is in the process of filling the position.
- The leaves program is complete. The staff was commended for doing an outstanding job both in the job and time frame in which they did it.
- Because of the nice weather the asphalt plants are still open so improvements to our roads can continue.
- He took a road trip with the Public Works Director to Waterbury to look at their splash pads. We are in the process of completing the selection of a location; it should be ready for the 2016 season.
- He continues to look at a re-organization with department heads and other individuals within the Town Hall.
- At a recent staff meeting Department Heads were asked to be vigilant with their budget requests. Hopefully all entities that affect the budget will do the same.
- Three union contracts are up this year.
- Work continues to improve and upgrade the Traffic Control signs in town.
- The Audit came back clean; credit was given to the Finance Director and her staff as well as other Department Heads for the good condition that the town is in.
- Hopefully another Bulky Waste pickup will be scheduled for next year. They continue to look at the Transfer Station and hope to provide more services to the residents in the future.

I. CHIEF OF POLICE'S REPORT

Chief LaMontagne reported:

- The Monthly Statistics were distributed for the month of November.
- The Department is up to nearly 9700 calls for service this year.
- Samuel Molina was hired as Cromwell's newest police officer. He will be sworn in on December 21st at 2 p.m. in the Town Hall Lobby; all are welcome to attend. He will enter the Police Academy on December 31st.
- Officer Perricone is doing very well at the academy.
- Kudos to Sgt. Kogut for planning the tip-a-cop night at the 99 Restaurant; \$1,300 was raised for Special Olympics.
- Kudos to Lori O'Neill for planning the very successful fill-a-cruiser event that benefitted the Cromwell Food Pantry and Fuel Bank. The event was held at Stop and Shop on December 5th.

- Holiday patrols are being stepped up at local shopping centers.
- Chief reminded residents to keep their vehicles locked and not to leave valuables in their cars. Other towns are experiencing a lot of break-ins and larcenies.

J. PUBLIC WORK DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Public Works Director Spina reported:

- Leave collection program was completed on Tuesday, December 8. Town crews took a second pass through town.
- Town Engineer and I met with VHB (Pavement Management Consultant) on Tuesday for preliminary results. They will present to Town Council and Finance Board in January or February.
- Precision Concrete Cutters will be here later this week, or first part of next to remediate trip hazards on Sebethe and Evergreen.
- Grant for equipment sharing that was discussed at last meeting was submitted before the deadline.
- With the Town Manager's approval, I have been in contact with the Town of Glastonbury's DPW. We are hoping to be able to acquire liquid brine mixture from them. This will provide us with an opportunity to pre-wet our roads prior to weather events.
- A short discussion was held regarding the streetlight program.

K. FINANCIAL

1. Budget Reports

Finance Director Sylvester presented the budget reports which cover the period through November.

- Everything is on target at this point as to where we should be.
- The Audit is completed. Hard copies should be available next week. It is a clean audit with no issues on both the Town and Board of Education side.
- Working on refunding the 2004 bonds issue to get a lower rate for our bonds. At the worst case scenario, this would result in a \$25,000 savings over the next five or six years.

L. STAFF REPORTS

None

M. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Presentation by consulting engineer on possible sites for a new DPW/CWPCA facility with discussion and possible action to follow. -*Tabled Left on table.*
2. Continue discussion and possible action on Solid Waste Report. -*Tabled Left on table.*

N. NEW BUSINESS

1. Discussion and potential approval to include West St. Commons Development in the Solid Waste Reimbursement Program.

Public Works Director Spina presented the request.

Mr. Spina advised that other associations that had previously applied are receiving this reimbursement. West Street Commons Development would receive reimbursement of approximately \$1,238 per year for 26 homes at .75 tons per home. Mr. Spina recommended that this request be approved.

Motion made by R. Newton seconded by F. Emanuele and *unanimously carried* to approve including West St. Commons Development in the Solid Waste Reimbursement Program.

2. Town Manager's goals and objectives for 2016.

E. Faienza - Keeping with last year's goals and incorporate the suggestions that the Councilors this evening.

R. Newton - Would like to see over the long run the budget presentation should be changed. Department Heads should put goals and objectives for the year in the budget process and they should be assessed at the end of the year to see if they have met their goals and objectives. Only then can we do some long range planning so that we can continue to be effective throughout the long process and not just year to year.

F. Emanuele - Share resources and equipment with other towns like we are doing with Portland right now. Work with the Mattabassett on the residents behalf; hold them accountable for smells.

A. Waters - Keep the mill rate below the minimum and have no tax increase this year.

T. Tokarz - Employee contracts are coming up this year, asked that the Council is kept informed and included in the progress of the negotiations.

E. Wengers - Cromwell is a beautiful town. He has noticed crooked speed signs, street signs and stop signs that are difficult to read. He would like to see a beautification program for all signs; have them straightened and install more of them throughout the town.

S. Slade - Keep in mind to continue bringing businesses into town; getting properties like the Sav Mor building redeveloped and be mindful of the economy of the town.

Town Manager Salvatore;

- He will continue to make improvements the Town road network.

- He will do his best to keep the 16/17 budget austere, keeping in mind that he only has the ability to work with the Town's budget. It will be up to the Board of Finance to control the other entity.
- He will work with the budget format and include the department's goals and objectives.
- He will work on incorporating long-range planning into all town processes.
- He will continue the Economic Development efforts for the entire town.
- He will continue to work on improving Human Resources; including H/R policies, job descriptions and reorganizing.
- He will encourage on the job training so if we have an opening we can promote from within.
- He will work on providing training for all town employees.

O. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Special Meeting, November 23, 2015

Motion made by A. Waters seconded by F. Emanuele and *carried* to approve the November 23, 2015 Special Meeting Minutes as amended to include that Public Works Director Spina was invited into Executive Session items 1 & 2.

(As noted by Councilor Slade)

Aye: A. Waters, F. Emanuele, E. Faienza, R. Newton, E. Weners, S. Slade

Abstained: T. Tokarz had left the meeting after Executive Session to attend to Mattabassett business and was not present for the Special Meeting.

P. RESIGNATIONS

None

Q. APPOINTMENTS

1. South Central CT Emergency Medical Services Council

a. Charles Epstein, reappointment, term Expires 10/17

Motion made by A. Waters seconded by T. Tokarz and *unanimously carried* to approve Mr. Epstein's re-appointment to the South Central CT Emergency Medical Services Council.

2. Civil Preparedness

a. Chief Denise LaMontagne, Director

b. Captain Kevin VanderSloot, Deputy

Motion made by R. Newton seconded by E. Weners and *unanimously carried* to approve Chief LaMontagne's appointment as Civil Preparedness Director and Captain VanderSloot's appointment as Civil Preparedness Deputy Director, as recommended by Town Manager Salvatore.

3. Cablevision, Comcast, Advisory Council

a. Paul Duren, reappointment, term expires 12/17

b. Marco Iacoveillo, reappointment, term expires 12/17

c. Jay Polke, reappointment, term expires 12/17

Motion made by R. Newton seconded by F. Emanuele and *unanimously carried* to approve Mr. Duren, Mr. Iacoveillo and Mr. Polke's re-appointment to the Cablevision, Comcast Advisory Council.

4. Health Director

a. J. Wesley Bell, term expires 12/19

Motion made by E. Wenner seconded by A. Waters and *unanimously carried* to approve Mr. Bell's appointment as Cromwell's Health Director, as recommended by Town Manager Salvatore.

5. Zoning Board of Appeals

a. Mark Zampino, alternate, Term expires November 2017.

Motion made by S. Slade seconded by F. Emanuele and *unanimously carried* to approve Mr. Zampino's appointment as an alternate to the Zoning Board of Appeals.

6. Regional Mental Health Board

a. Diane Mongold, Term expires April 2016.

Motion made by T. Tokarz seconded by S. Slade and *unanimously carried* to approve Ms. Mongold's appointment to the Regional Mental Health Board.

R. TOWN COUNCIL COMMISSION LIAISON REPORTS

R. Newton - CWPCA meeting is next week.

F. Emanuele -Spoke regarding the Eagle Scout project at the Dog Park.

A. Waters -Historical Society, P&R. Cromwell Outboard and Senior Services.
Wreaths across America.

T. Tokarz -Redevelopment - Inland Wetlands and Conservation.

Advised the Council that the New Britain representatives to the Mattabassett were all replaced with new members.

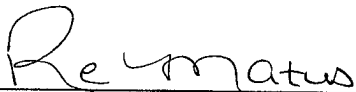
E. Weners - Meetings that he is liaison to were all canceled.

S. Slade -The Fire Department's Santa's Run is this Saturday. Attended the Verizon Tower information meeting.

S. ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by S. Slade seconded by T. Tokarz and *unanimously carried* to adjourn the meeting at 9:28 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Re Matus
Secretary

Incident Statistics Report

11/01/2015 00:00 Thru 11/30/2015 23:59

| Call Type Description | Total for Period |
|-------------------------------|------------------|
| 911 Hang Up Call | 12 |
| Administrative Matter | 12 |
| Alarm - All types | 22 |
| ALARM-FALSE BILLABLE | 41 |
| All Other Offenses | 3 |
| Animal Complaint | 34 |
| Assault, Aggravated | 1 |
| Assist Motorist | 27 |
| Assist Other Agency | 32 |
| Burglary | 1 |
| Car Seat Installation | 1 |
| Civil Matter | 2 |
| Counterfeit/Forgery | 1 |
| Credit Card/ATM Fraud | 1 |
| Criminal Mischief / Vandalism | 8 |
| Dis Conduct/BOP | 2 |
| Domestic Incident | 3 |
| DUI | 4 |
| Escort | 4 |
| Fight/Disturbance | 3 |
| Fingerprinting | 27 |
| FV Protocol / P.A. | 2 |
| Identity Theft | 4 |
| Juvenile Incident | 3 |
| Larceny - From Building | 4 |
| Larceny - From MV | 18 |
| Larceny - MV Parts/Access | 1 |
| Larceny -Shoplifting | 16 |
| Larceny- Other | 2 |
| Medical Emergency | 51 |
| MV Accident | 33 |
| MV ACCIDENT PRIV PROP | 4 |
| MV Parking Violation | 27 |
| MV Theft | 2 |
| MV Violation | 114 |
| Neighbor Dispute | 1 |
| Noise Complaint | 11 |
| Nursing Home Fax Report | 1 |
| Property Check | 69 |

Incident Statistics Report

11/01/2015 00:00 Thru 11/30/2015 23:59

| Call Type Description | Total for Period |
|------------------------------|------------------|
| Property Lost/Found | 10 |
| Record Only Call | 4 |
| Report of Gunshot | 1 |
| Road Cond/TCS Out | 7 |
| Runaway | 1 |
| See Complainant | 24 |
| Suspicious Activity | 54 |
| TEST CALL | 5 |
| Threaten/Harass/Intimidation | 4 |
| Town Ordinance | 1 |
| Traffic Assignment | 10 |
| Unfounded Complaint | 8 |
| Untimely Death | 1 |
| Unwanted Person | 1 |
| Well Being Check | 7 |
| Total: | 742 |