

**TOWN OF CROMWELL  
TOWN COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING  
WEDNESDAY MARCH 10, 2021  
7:00 P.M. TOWN HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

**MINUTES**

**Present:** Mayor E. Faienza, Deputy Mayor J. Donohue, S. Fortenbach, P. Ahlquist,  
J. Henahan, A. Waters (arrived at 7:11 p.m.), J. Demetriades

**Absent:**

**Also Present:** Town Manager A. Salvatore, Director of Finance M. Sylvester, Chief  
D. Lamontagne, Director of Public Works L. Spina, Director of Planning  
and Development S. Popper

**A. CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Faienza called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

RECEIVED FOR RECORD  
Mar 11, 2021 03:00P  
JoAnn Doyle  
TOWN CLERK  
CROMWELL, CT

**B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Chief Lamontagne led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Mayor Faienza added; M. Appointments, 2. a. Economic Development  
Commission, Robert Donohue. Town Manager Salvatore added: K. New Business, ~  
3. Discussion and possible action on proposed Bike Trail.

**Motion** made by S. Fortenbach seconded by J. Henahan and *unanimously carried*  
to approve adding the two items.

**Motion** made by S. Fortenbach seconded by J. Henahan and *unanimously carried*  
to approve the agenda as amended.

**D. COMMISSION CHAIRMAN REPORTS/LIASON REPORT/STAFF REPORTS**

1. Update by Town Manager & EDC Coordinator regarding 60-61 River Road.  
After negotiating for a year and a half they have reached an impasse with the  
parties that were interested in developing the project. What they are  
requesting is outside of the original RFQ and RFP. They will be reissuing the  
RFQ, RFP.

2. Update from Asst. Public Works Director J. Harriman regarding  
New Highway/Sewer Facility. (submitted written report)

3. Presentation of Mattabassett Budget  
Executive Director A. Simonian and Chairman J Dunham presented their 21/22  
Mattabassett Budget to the Town Council.

**E. MAYOR'S UPDATE**

Mayor Faienza reported:

- A resident is interested in installing a Handicapped Playground that would be fully paid for with donations. Mayor will keep the Council updated as further information is received.
- Congressman Larson contacted him regarding the American Rescue Plan and funds the town would be receiving.
- Covenant Village is nearing completion; a Ribbon Cutting will be held on April 26<sup>th</sup>.
- He continues to receive compliments on the way the Covid Vaccination process is being handled by the Cromwell Health Department.
- Board of Education Chairman Matrullo's report was read into the record.

#### **F. TOWN MANAGER'S UPDATE**

Town Manager Salvatore reported:

- Looking into using the American Reserve Act funds received by the Board of Education to offset the increase in their 21/22 Budget.
- Participated in the Governor's telephone call; so far there is no news regarding the upcoming budget process.
- The Library will open on March 19<sup>th</sup> at 25% capacity; curb side delivery will continue. Computer use will not be permitted. They are moving slowly to be in sync with other nearby communities.
- The resident on Geer Street heard back from his bank and they will allow the sidewalk project transaction to move forward.
- A brief ceremony will be held on March 17<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m. for the Highway/CWPCA Building. The Council, Board of Finance and the Cromwell Water Pollution Control Agency will be invited.
- A RFP will go out for a Building Study for Town Hall, Sewer and Highway Buildings.

#### **G. FINANCIAL/FINANCE DIRECTOR'S UPDATE**

Finance Director M. Sylvester submitted a written report:

##### **1. Budget Reports**

##### **2. Tax Refunds**

**Motion made by J. Henahan seconded by S. Fortenbach and *unanimously carried* to approve refunds 1 - 6.**

##### **3. Discussion and action; Other Fund Budgets**

a. Dog License Fund -\$23,900

b. Sidewalk Fund -\$7,500

**Motion made by J. Donohue seconded by J. Demetriades and *unanimously carried* to approve Dog License Fund- \$23,900**

**Motion made by J. Donohue seconded by S. Fortenbach and *unanimously carried* to approve Sidewalk Fund -\$7,500**

4. Authorize Mayor to set the Special Town Meeting for the Other Fund budgets, to include Dog License Fund, Sidewalk Fund, and Sewer Assessment Fund, per Town Charter.

**Motion** made by J. Demetriades seconded by J. Donohue and *unanimously carried* to authorize the Mayor to set the Special Town Meeting for the other Fund Budgets.

5. Discussion and action on any unfinished 2021-2022 budget matters.  
None

#### **H. CHIEF OF POLICE'S UPDATE**

Chief Lamontagne provided a written report and presented additional information:

- The new dispatchers are doing well and will be on their own shortly.
- Officers Chieffo, Thomasson and Camputaro are doing well on the FTO program.
- Kudos for Officer Carlson and K-9 Bane for the exceptional job they are doing.

#### **I. PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR'S UPDATE**

Public Works Director Spina reported:

- During a recent storm the gutters at the new Highway/Sewer facility were torn off the building. They are having discussions with the Contractor regarding several issues that they believe the contractor is responsible to fix.
- Advised that the town's fields are still very wet; the Parks Department is unable to bring equipment on the fields to start preparing them for the upcoming season. Even though the fields are closed they are suffering damage due to people that using them.
- The Pavement Management Study was delayed because of weather conditions; hopefully he will be able to provide an update at next month's meeting.

#### **J. CITIZEN COMMENTS -Submitted to [mayor@cromwellct.com](mailto:mayor@cromwellct.com)**

None

#### **K. NEW BUSINESS**

1. Presentation Mattabassett District Budget.

Moved to beginning of the meeting.

2. Discussion and action to approve use of Riverport Landing for 2021 Farmer's Market. Dates will be every Friday from June 4<sup>th</sup> - September 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2021, from 4 p.m. - 7 p.m.

**Motion** made by P. Ahlquist seconded by J. Demetriades and *unanimously carried* to approve use of Riverport Landing for Farmer's Market from June 4<sup>th</sup> through September 3<sup>rd</sup> 2021.

3. Discussion and possible action on proposed Bike Trail in Watrous Park.

Town Manager Salvatore presented the request. A lengthy discussion followed. **Motion** made by J. Henehan seconded by S. Fortenbach and *unanimously carried* to authorize the Town Manager to put an agreement together with the Bike Club and once the agreement is put in place allow them to build their trail on Town Property at Watrous Park.

**L. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

1. Regular Meeting, February 10, 2021

**Motion** made by J. Donohue seconded by S. Fortenbach and *unanimously carried* to approve the minutes of February 10, 2021.

2. Special Meeting, Budget Workshop, March 1, 2021

**Motion** made by J. Donohue seconded by S. Fortenbach and *unanimously carried* to approve the minutes of March 1, 2021

3. Special Meeting, Budget Workshop, March 3, 2021

**Motion** made by S. Fortenbach seconded by J. Donohue and *unanimously carried* to approve the minutes of March 3, 2021.

**M. APPOINTMENTS**

1. Senior Services Commission

a. Deirdre Daly

b. Paula Luna

**Motion** made by A. Waters seconded by J. Donohue and *unanimously carried* to approve a. and b.

2. Economic Development Commission

a. Robert Donohue, Term expires March 2025

**Motion** made by A. Waters seconded by J. Donohue and *carried* to approve Mr. Donohue's appointment to EDC.

Aye: J. Henehan, J. Demetriades, A. Waters, S. Fortenbach, E. Faienza,  
P. Ahlquist

Abstained: J Donohue

**N. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

S. Fortenbach -Cromwell High School will be performing Clue via Video Link.

The link will be made available with a donation.

A: Waters presented information regarding the upcoming Memorial Day Parade.

**O. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

1. Update Legal Matter

a. Twyon Martin v. Town of Cromwell

CHRO #2130142

**Motion** made by S. Fortenbach seconded by J. Donohue and *unanimously carried* to adjourn to Executive Session at 8:38 p.m.

Town Manager Salvatore was invited into Executive Session.

Motion made by S. Fortenbach seconded by A. Waters and *unanimously carried* to come out of Executive Session at 8:45 p.m.  
No action taken.

**P. ADJOURN**

Motion made by J. Donohue seconded by S. Fortenbach and *unanimously carried* to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Re Matus  
Re Matus  
Secretary