

**TOWN OF CROMWELL
TOWN COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
WEDNESDAY APRIL 14, 2021
7:00 P.M. TOWN HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS
MINUTES**

Present: Mayor E. Faienza, Deputy Mayor J. Donohue, P. Ahlquist, S. Fortenbach, J. Henahan, A. Waters, J. Demetriades

Absent:

Also present: Town Manager A. Salvatore, Director of Finance M. Sylvester, Chief of Police D. Lamontagne, Director of Public Works L. Spina, Revenue Collector D. Sienna, Press

Mayor Faienza announced to the Council that he would not be seeking re-election in the upcoming November election. He thanked them for their service to the Town and all that was accomplished during his terms as Mayor. He also thanked those serving on Boards and Commissions for their commitment. A special thank you was given to Town Manager Salvatore for his efforts in moving the Town forward.

A. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Faienza called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

A. Salvatore led the Pledge of Allegiance.

C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The following changes were added to the agenda:

Delete existing #5 & 6.

Add:

5. Discussion and action to move \$1,827,000 from the General Fund fund balance into the Capital/Non-Recurring Fund:

- o **Appropriate within the Capital/Non-Recurring Fund as follows:**
 - **Town Hall/Library roof replacement, including atrium roof: \$1,005,000**
 - **CHS Family & Consumer Sciences Kitchen \$260,000**
 - **Main Street Retaining Wall \$332,000**
 - **Back Hoe \$130,000**
 - **Tennis Court repairs \$50,000**
 - **Mason Dump Truck \$50,000**

Motion made by S. Fortenbach seconded by A. Waters and unanimously carried to amend the agenda.

Motion made by Al Waters seconded by J. Henahan and unanimously carried to approve the agenda as amended

RECEIVED FOR RECORD
Apr 16, 2021 02:40P
JoAnn Doyle
TOWN CLERK
CROMWELL, CT



D. COMMISSION CHAIRMAN REPORTS/LIASON REPORT/STAFF REPORTS

Board of Education liaison report presented under Mayor's Report

E. MAYOR'S UPDATE

Mayor Faienza reported:

- Read Board of Education Chairman J. Matrullo's report into the record (attached).
- Mayor Faienza stated that he was very unhappy with some of the members of the Board of Finance's discussion during their Budget Hearings.
- A presentation will be made at the May Council Meeting to Bailey Wilson for her act of heroism in aiding a person in distress.
- The FOIA Training that the Council received this evening was informative and helpful.

F. TOWN MANAGER'S UPDATE

Town Manager Salvatore reported:

- Thanked Mayor Faienza for his support over the past years.
- The Job-Description study is moving forward. The Employee Handbook and Police Procedures will be worked on next.
- The River Landing project should be completed in a couple of weeks.
- Advised the Council that he is aware there is an issue on 134 North Road and that he has our Zoning Enforcement Officer B. Driska taking care of the issue.
- He has been working with Finance Director M. Sylvester and Town Clerk J. Doyle on the Budget Referendum that will be held on May 4th. Absentee Ballots will be made available.

G. FINANCIAL/FINANCE DIRECTOR'S UPDATE

Finance Director Sylvester submitted a written report and provided additional information:

- Board of Finance is finished with the Budget Process; a Referendum will be held in May.
- American Reserve Fund may be used for lost revenue during the pandemic.
- The Revenue side of the budget is still uncertain.
- Keeping an eye on Legal Fees and Computer Services; a transfer request will be brought to the Council next month, if needed.

1. Budget Reports

2. Tax Refunds

Motion made by A. Waters seconded by S. Fortenbach and *unanimously carried* to approve tax refunds 1 - 10.

- 3. Discussion and action to waive the RFP/RFQ process and authorize Pullman & Comley, LLC, with continued representation by Glenn Rybacki, Esq. and Judith A. Blank, Esq., to provide legal services for matters concerning borrowing of money and issuance of bonds.**

Motion made by A. Waters seconded by J. Demetriades and *unanimously carried* to waive the RFP/RFQ process and authorize Pullman & Comley, LLC, with continued representation by Glenn Rybacki, Esq. and Judith A. Blank, Esq., to provide legal services for matters concerning borrowing of money and issuance of bonds

4. Discussion and possible approval regarding request from Tax Collector for a reduction to sell the listed properties for taxes plus out of pocket expenses; releasing interest only.

Motion made by J. Donohue seconded by S. Fortenbach and *unanimously carried* to permit the Tax Collector to go forward with the Tax Sale of the listed properties and accept an amount that the Tax Collector deems appropriate.

- ~~5. **Various General Capital Improvements:** To consider and act upon a resolution recommending an appropriation, to be funded from borrowings to the extent not funded from grants or other sources, for costs related to various general capital improvements, and, if approved, referring such recommendation to the Board of Finance for its consideration.~~

- ~~6. **Various School Capital Improvements:** To consider and act upon a resolution recommending an appropriation, to be funded from borrowings to the extent not funded from grants or other sources, for costs related to various school capital improvements, and, if approved, referring such recommendation to the Board of Finance for its consideration.~~

5. Discussion and action to move \$1,827,000 from the General Fund fund balance into the Capital/Non-Recurring Fund:

- o Appropriate within the Capital/Non-Recurring Fund as follows:
 - Town Hall/Library roof replacement, including atrium roof: \$1,005,000
 - CHS Family & Consumer Sciences Kitchen \$260,000
 - Main Street Retaining Wall \$332,000
 - Back Hoe \$130,000
 - Tennis Court repairs \$50,000
 - Mason Dump Truck \$50,000

Motion made by S. Fortenbach seconded by J. Demetriades and *unanimously carried* to move \$1,827,000 from the General Fund fund balance into the Capital/Non-Recurring Fund. With the caveat that the Board of Education follow all Town procurement policy guidelines.

6. **Special Town Meeting:** To consider and act upon a resolution setting the date and time for a Special Town Meeting to consider and act upon resolutions with respect to the appropriation and borrowing authorizations recommended by the Town Council for (a) various general capital improvements and (b) various school capital improvements, if approved by the Board of Finance.

Motion made by S. Fortenbach seconded by J. Henahan and *unanimously carried* to consider and act upon a resolution setting the date and time for a Special Town Meeting to consider and act upon resolutions with respect to the appropriation and borrowing authorizations recommended by the Town Council for (a) various general capital improvements and (b) various school capital improvements, if approved by the Board of Finance.

H. CHIEF OF POLICE'S UPDATE

Chief Lamontagne submitted a written report and provided the following additional information:

- Expressed gratitude to Mayor Faienza for his support of the Police Department over the years.
- You drive, you text, you pay enforcement continues this month.
- Appreciated the Department's efforts in filling many Easter eggs and distributing them to many happy kids. Contributions made will go toward sending a youth to camp.
- There will be an Award Ceremony for several members of the Police Department on May 7th at 3:00 p.m. in the Town Hall Gym.
- Thanked Dan Taylor, Vehicle Maintainer Supervisor, for the great job he is doing maintaining the fleet.
- K-9 Bane was injured recently; he has recovered and is back on the job.

I. PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR'S UPDATE

Public Works Director L. Spina presented an update on the following items:

- North Road Culvert
- Coles Road
- Cromwell Landing
- Public Works/Sewer Facility
- Pavement Management 2021 Update.

J. CITIZEN COMMENTS

None

A brief recess was held from 8:08 p.m. - 8:15 p.m.

K. NEW BUSINESS

1. Discussion and action to appoint American Legion Carlson-Sjovall Post No. 105 as Agent of the Town for the 2021 Memorial Day Parade.

Motion made by J. Donohue seconded by J. Henahan and *unanimously carried* to appoint American Legion Carlson-Sjovall Post No. 105 as Agent of the Town for the 2021 Memorial Day Parade.

2. Grievance, Termination, Step 3, IUOE
 - a. Raymond Iorio

The Union was given the opportunity to present their side of the grievance.

The Town was given the opportunity to present their side of the grievance.

Mr. Iorio was given the opportunity to present his side of the grievance.

The Council was given the opportunity to ask questions. Discussion followed.

Motion made by P. Ahlquist and seconded by J. Donohue and *unanimously carried* to uphold termination and deny the grievance at this step for situations that in the past have created a hostile work environment.

L. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Regular Meeting, March 10, 2021

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

M. APPOINTMENTS

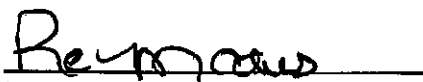
None

N. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

O. ADJOURN

Motion made by J. Donohue seconded by S. Fortenbach and *unanimously carried* to adjourn the meeting at 8:41 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Re Matus
Secretary

Matus, Re

From: Jeffrey Matrullo <jmatrulloboe@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 14, 2021 3:00 PM
To: Mayor; Faienza, Enzo
Subject: Board of Ed Updates

Enzo - Please see below updates to be introduced to the record at tonight's Council meeting. I hope you are having a great day.

- The state recently released guidance for end of year events, such as proms and graduations. The district is reviewing the guidance and is planning how to move forward with end of year events. The district is looking into renting a large tent to allow events to occur outside.

- The Board has re-engaged with its consultants at CSG (Construction Solutions Group) to continue discussions about the building projects at ECS and CMS, which were paused because of the pandemic. We look forward to working with the Council again on this.

- The district continues to monitor COVID developments. Administration is working with the town's health department to arrange a vaccination clinic for students eligible to receive a vaccine.

Jeff