

**TOWN OF CROMWELL
TOWN COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 11, 2019
7:00 P.M. TOWN HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

MINUTES

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

Absent:

Also Present: Town Manager A. Salvatore, Finance Director M. Sylvester, Chief D. Lamontagne, Public Works Director L. Spina, Transfer Station Operator C. Townsley, H/R Coordinator B. Price, Town Labor Attorney K. Weinstock

A. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Faienza called the meeting to order at 7:55 p.m.

B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Al Waters led the Pledge of Allegiance.

C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor Faienza added under N. Appointments, #12. CWPCA, E. Kosinski, Term expires 1/23. Shuffle order of agenda and move New Business number 1 & 2 to after the Town Manager's report. Item 2 will be heard first followed by Item 1. Town Manager Salvatore requested to round the amount requested in H.4 to \$19,975.00.

Motion made by A. Waters seconded by J. Demetriades and *carried* to appoint Charles Epstein as an alternate to the BAA (in place of the Mayor's recommendation, Matt Long).

Aye: J. Demetriades, A. Waters, J. Donohue, J. Henahan, P. Ahlquist

Nay: E. Faienza, S. Fortenbach

Motion made by J. Donohue seconded by A. Waters and *unanimously carried* to amend the agenda.

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

D. COMMISSION CHAIRMAN REPORTS/LIASON REPORT/STAFF REPORTS

None

E. CITIZEN COMMENTS

1. A. Kelly, Willowbrook Road -Spoke regarding item K1.
2. R. Waters, South Street -Spoke regarding item K1 and other issues of concern.
3. B. Gurciullo -Field Road -Stated his opinion on several matters.

J. Demetriades requested a moment of silence in memory of Tom Madden who recently passed away.

F. MAYOR'S UPDATE

Mayor Faienza reported:

- The Pension Committee met in November. Our pension is in excellent shape.
- A Long-Range Planning Meeting is scheduled for next week.
- The Town Manager's Goals and Objectives will be discussed at the January Meeting.
- The Budget process will begin in January.
- He attended a meeting with local town's Mayors. The Mayor's will be meeting to discuss working together and shared services.
- The Business Visitation Meeting for January will be going to the TPC.
- The Mayor's Tree Lighting and Holiday Block Party was a huge success. He thanked everyone who was involved.
- Cromwell Division will meet at the Mattabassett District tomorrow.
- Thanked everyone who works for the town for their hard work and wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

G. TOWN MANAGER'S UPDATE

Town Manager Salvatore reported:

- The CO was received for the Library Addition and Renovation. A rededication ceremony will be planned in the near future.
- The Blue-Collar Union Contract is all set to sign.
- The Police Contract will be signed tomorrow.
- They will start the Budget process in January.
- The Fire District and Town will each pay half for the Study.
- Spoke briefly regarding Sustainable Connecticut, in response to J. Demetriades request for an update. This was assigned to Stuart Popper and he will be asked to report progress at the January meeting.

K. NEW BUSINESS

2. Grievance - IUOE Local 30

a. Joe Grassi

Steve Broderick, IUOE Local 30, presented the union's position.

Lou Spina, Director of Public Works and Bonnie Price, H/R Coordinator presented the town's position.

The Council was given the opportunity to ask questions of both sides. After a lengthy discussion, regarding the language in the contract and the definition of the term "temporary".

Labor Attorney Weinstock was present and asked to give his opinion regarding the grievance. Town Manager Salvatore presented information to the Council regarding the grievance.

After further discussion:

Motion made by J. Demetriades seconded by P. Ahlquist to approve the grievance.

Further discussion followed:

The consensus of the Council was to give the union the opportunity to take a recess and discuss the option of going back to negotiate this with the town. The time-line to bring the grievance to the next step would be waived.

A recess was taken from 9:15 p.m. until 9:24 so the union could discuss their options.

J. Demetriades withdrew his motion and P. Ahlquist withdrew his second with regret to approve the grievance.

The union presented the following: The unions proposal would be a non-precedent to compensate Mr. Grassi and negotiate.

K. Weinstock advised that the union doesn't have the authority to set a non-precedent.

Motion made by P. Ahlquist to table this and negotiate and also waive the timeline. No second received.

Motion made by P. Ahlquist seconded by J. Henahan and *carried* to deny, regretfully, the grievance.

Aye: S. Fortenbach, E. Faienza, J. Donohue, J. Henahan, P. Ahlquist

Nay: A. Waters, J. Demetriades

1. Discussion and possible action to amend transfer station passes to 24 dumps per resident, per year. With 12 being for C&D/Bulk and 12 being for brush. Public Works Director Spina and Transfer Station Operator Townley presented the request.

The Council discussed this topic and decided that they would like to see an option for the seniors who seldom use the Transfer Station. Town Manager Salvatore responded that they are looking into this option.

Motion made by P. Ahlquist seconded by S. Fortenbach and *unanimously carried* to approved as proposed.

A. Waters left the meeting for the evening.

H. FINANCIAL/FINANCE DIRECTOR'S UPDATE

1. Budget Reports

- a. The expenditures are on target.
- b. Revenue is coming in strong.

2. Tax Refunds, November

Motion made by P. Ahlquist seconded by S. Fortenbach and *unanimously carried* to approve tax refunds 1 - 14.

3. Tax Refunds, December

Motion made by J. Donohue seconded by S. Fortenbach and *unanimously carried* to approve tax refunds 1 - 32.

4. Discussion and action to approve applying for and receive the expanded DUI Law Enforcement Grant.

Chief D. Lamontagne presented the request.

Motion made by P. Ahlquist seconded by J. Henehan and *unanimously carried* to approve applying for and receive the expanded DUI Law Enforcement Grant.

- a. Approve appropriation of \$19,975.00 from Capital Non-Recurring of which 100% will be reimbursed back to the Town.

Motion made by J. Henehan seconded by S. Fortenbach and *unanimously carried* to approve appropriation of \$19,975.00 from Capital Non-Recurring of which 100% will be reimbursed back to the Town.

I. CHIEF OF POLICE'S UPDATE

Chief Lamontagne reported:

- Distributed the November monthly incident report.
- Updated the Council regarding the issue with B. Gurciullo, who spoke during Citizen Comments.
- Officer Jespersen is attending the Hartford Academy and doing exceptionally well. He is due to graduate in April.
- The annual fill-a-cruiser was held last weekend and was the best one ever. Thanks, were given to all the department members who participated, especially Lori Ouellette, for once again this year planning the event.
- They are doing Holiday patrols once again this year.
- The Department has one spot in the January Academy and 2 spots for the June Academy.
- Officer Perricone attended specialized training and is now one of the 65 Certified Drug Experts in the State.

J. PUBLIC WORK'S DIRECTOR UPDATE

Public Works Director Spina reported:

- **DPW Facility** - work continues, drainage system being installed, Building Dept continues to review plans, construction meeting held on Tuesday, hope to put foundation in soon.
- **Pavement Management** - resurfacing sections of Coles Rd., Evergreen Rd., and South St. completed early November.
- **Park Maintenance** - conversion/rehabilitation of baseball field at Watrous completed last month.
- **Curbside Leaf Collection** - began on November 18th. Initially we were a little out in front of schedule, but due to short holiday week and a couple of snow storms, we are behind. Goal is to complete if weather allows.

L. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Regular Meeting October 9, 2019

Motion made by J. Donohue seconded by J. Demetriades and *carried* to approve the minutes of October 9, 2019.

Aye: J. Donohue, E. Faienza, J. Demetriades

J. Henahan, P. Ahlquist, S. Fortenbach were not on the Council for the meeting.

2. Special Meeting November 12, 2019

Motion made by J. Donohue seconded by S. Fortenbach and unanimously *carried* to approve the minutes of November 12, 2019.

Aye: J. Donohue, E. Faienza, J. Demetriades, J. Henahan, P. Ahlquist,
S. Fortenbach

3. Special Meeting November 20, 2019

Motion made by J. Donohue seconded by P. Ahlquist and *unanimously carried* to approve the minutes of November 20, 2019.

M. RESIGNATIONS

1. Emergency Management Director

- a. Chief Denise Lamontagne

2. Board of Finance

- a. Jon Dzurka, Alternate

Motion made by J. Donohue seconded by P. Ahlquist and *unanimously carried* to accept resignation 1 & 2 with regret.

N. APPOINTMENTS

1. Emergency Management

- a. Sal Nesci, Director, Term expires 12/21
- b. Capt. Kevin Vandersloot, Deputy, Term expires 12/21

2. Board of Assessment Appeals

- a. Julie Fitts Ritter, Alternate
- b. Charles Epstein, Alternate

3. Comcast Advisory Council
 - a. Paul Duran, Term expires 12/21
 - b. Marco Iacovello, Term expires 12/21
 - c. Jay Polke. Term expires 12/21
4. Director of Health
 - a. J. Wesley Bell, Term expires 12/23
5. EMS
 - a. Charles Epstein, Term expires 10/21
6. Inland Wetlands and Watercourse Agency
 - a. Dave Adametz Term expires 12/23
 - b. John Whitney, Term expires 12/23
 - c. William Yeske, Term Expires 12/23
 - d. Jeremy Zeedyk, Term expires 1/22
7. Municipal Agent for Elderly
 - a. Amy Saada, Term expires 12/21
8. Park & Recreation
 - a. Michael Holcomb, Term expires 12/23
 - b. Jim Vinchetti, Term expires 12/23
9. Planning & Zoning Alternates
 - a. John Keithan, Term expires 12/21
 - b. David Fitzgerald, Term expires 12/21
 - c. Mo Islam, Term expires 12/21
10. Zoning Board of Appeals Alternates
 - a. Brian Fisk, Term expires 11/21
 - b. Steven Wygonowski, Term expires 11/21
11. Sub-Registrar for the Town of Cromwell
 - a. Jay Doolittle, Cromwell Funeral Home, Term expires 1/23
 - b. Louis Sarno, D'Angelo Funeral Home, Term expires 1/23
12. CWPCA
 - a. Ed Kosinski, Term expires 1/23

Motion made by J. Henahan seconded by P. Ahlquist and *unanimously carried* to approve appointments 1 - 12.

O. COUNCIL LIAISON REPORTS

- J. Demetriades -Creative District
- J. Donohue -Wreaths Across America
- J. Henahan -Board of Finance
- P. Ahlquist -Wished all a Happy Holiday

Q. ADJOURN

Motion made by J. Donohue seconded by J. Henehan and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 10:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Re Matus". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Re Matus
Secretary