

**MINUTES OF THE CHESHIRE TOWN COUNCL BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD ON TUESDAY, APRIL 12, 2016 AT 6:30 P.M. IN ROOM 207, TOWN HALL, 84
SOUTH MAIN STREET, CHESHIRE CT 06410**

Present

Timothy Slocum, Chairman and Sylvia Nichols. Absent: Michael Ecke
Staff: Michael A. Milone, Town Manager; Finance Director James Jaskot;
Vincent Masciana, C.O.O. Dept. of Education

1. ROLL CALL

The clerk called the roll and a quorum was determined to be present.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The group Pledged Allegiance to the Flag.

3. Acceptance and appropriation of a \$50 anonymous donation to the Human Services Gift Account for general purposes.
4. Acceptance and appropriation of two grant disbursements totaling \$4,848 from the State Department of Education Youth Service Bureau to fund positive youth development programs for Cheshire youth.
5. Acceptance and appropriation of a \$103.37 donation from Cheshire Togetherhood Committee to the Cheshire Fuel Bank.
6. Acceptance and appropriation of a \$1,650 donation from Jeffrey and Mary McCormick for a memorial bench in memory of Joseph W and B. Theresa Proffitt.
7. Acceptance and appropriation of \$1,650 donation from Joseph Gilgallon Jr. For a memorial bench in memory of the Gilgallon Family.
8. Acceptance and appropriation of a \$50 donation from Dotty and Joe Metzler To the Jitney Bus Fund.
9. Acceptance and appropriation of a \$1 credit card swipe test donation from Ramona Burkey to the Library Gift Account.
10. Acceptance and appropriation of a \$15 donation from Marianne Beckmann In honor of Jane Bower to the Library Gift Account for the purchase of Library materials, furniture and computers.
11. Acceptance and appropriation of a \$25 donation from Kathy and Jim Kirby in memory of John L. Harris to the Library Gift Account for the Purchase of Library materials, furniture and computers.

12. Acceptance and appropriation of a \$121.50 donation from the lobby donation box to the Library Gift Account for the purchase of Library materials, furniture and computers.
13. Acceptance and appropriation of a \$10 donation from Kathleen Huntley To the Library Gift Account for the purchase of planting bulbs.
14. Acceptance and appropriation of a \$1,088 Connecticut Library State Aid Grant for the purchase of Library materials, furniture and computers.
15. Acceptance and appropriation of a \$102 donation from the Town Employees Dress Down Day funds from January 2016 to the Human Services Gift Account for general purposes.

MOTION by Ms. Nichols; seconded by Mr. Slocum.

MOVED to approve and move agenda items #3 through #15 to the full Town Council for approval.

VOTE The motion passed unanimously by those present.

16. Adoption of the FY 2016-2017 General Fund Operating Budget.

MOTION by Ms. Nichols; seconded by Mr. Slocum.

MOVED to approve and move agenda item #16 to the full Town Council for approval.

VOTE The motion passed unanimously by those present.

17. Adoption of the FY 2016-2017 Water Pollution Control Department Fund Operating Budget.

MOTION by Ms. Nichols; seconded by Mr. Ecke.

MOVED to approve and move agenda item #17 to the full Town Council for approval.

VOTE The motion passed unanimously by those present.

18. Adoption of the FY 2016-2017 Community Pool Fund Operating Budget.

MOTION by Ms. Nichols; seconded by Mr. Slocum.

MOVED to approve and move agenda item #18 to the full Town Council for approval.

VOTE The motion passed unanimously by those present.

19. Approval of transfer of traffic easement land to State of Connecticut Department of Transportation and authorization to waive compensation And appraisal.

MOTION by Ms. Nichols; seconded by Mr. Slocum.

MOVED to approve and move agenda item #19 to the full Town Council for approval.

Discussion

Mr. Milone advised this matter went before the Planning Committee, and it is being sent to the full Town Council for approval. It is the subject of the April 12th public hearing, followed by Council adoption.

With regard to compensation from the State for this small parcel of land, the Town did not ask for compensation. Mr. Milone noted that the State has given land, including small parcels, to the Town. It is estimated this sliver of land is worth about \$1,000.

VOTE The motion passed unanimously by those present.

20. Reimbursement of \$128,000 from the Board of Education Building Maintenance Capital Non-Recurring Fund for repair expenses to replace boilers at Cheshire High School and the Humiston Building.

MOTION by Ms. Nichols; seconded by Mr. Slocum.

MOVED to approve and move agenda item #20 to the full Town Council for approval.

Discussion

The initial allocation was \$350,000. Mr. Masciana reported that the account balance is \$241,053. The BOE is requesting reimbursement for the extraordinary expenses, \$128,421. The funding was used for three boilers at the high school that failed, replacement of leaking boiler and a sewer line work at Humiston School, refurbishing boiler at Dodd Middle School.

Ms. Masciana commented on the very tight BOE budget for overall maintenance, special education outplacement costs and transportation. The requested reimbursement will leave \$112,632 in the account. He noted that the BOE C.N.R. account has a stipulation for Council approval of use of the funds.

VOTE The motion passed unanimously by those present.

21. Modification of appropriate language to permit use of funds from Education Full Day Kindergarten CNR account for purchase of supplies, materials, And equipment.

MOTION by Ms. Nichols; seconded by Mr. Slocum.

MOVED to approve and move agenda item #21 to the full Town Council for approval.

Discussion

The appropriation for FY 2014-2015 was \$255,000, and Mr. Masciana explained most of the funding was used for kindergarten set-up, ADA compliance, improvements to Norton, Highland and Chapman Schools to house kindergarten classes. There is \$25,000 left in the account. The request is for use of this money to purchase furniture for a new kindergarten classroom at Norton School, which has an additional kindergarten class for next year, along with some purchases for Chapman School.

The resolution states use of the funds for the 2014-2015 school year and Mr. Milone said the Town staff does not have authority to process this requisition. There is a revised resolution (Item 9F) which is consistent with the language bond counsel wants used.

Following the purchase of furniture as stated, Mr. Masciana advised there will be about a \$10,000 balance in the account.

VOTE The motion passed unanimously by those present.

22. Request for bid waiver for the second phase of the Cheshire High School Courtyard window replacement project.

MOTION by Ms. Nichols; seconded by Mr. Slocum.

MOVED to approve and move agenda item #22 to the full Town Council for approval.

Discussion

Mr. Masciana explained that this work was bid in May, with only J.A. Rosa responding. In the project budget there was a request for alternate bids on other window replacement. The project was done successfully by J.A. Rosa.

The Council appropriated \$250,000 for the next set of Courtyard windows (north, west and east windows) with the same construction and architectural team. Dean Petrucelli of Silver Petrucelli informed the BOE that to go out to bid now would result in a 15% higher cost. J.A. Rosa agreed to honor the prices it stated last year. Mr. Masciana said this is a bid waiver to save money, with a good contract based on last year's prices.

VOTE The motion passed unanimously by those present.

23. Authorization to apply for a \$750,000 Remedial Action and Redevelopment Municipal Action Grant in support of Ball and Socket Arts Project, Inc. project.

MOTION by Ms. Nichols; seconded by Mr. Ecke.

MOVED to approve and move agenda item #23 to the full Town Council for approval.

Discussion

Mr. Milone informed the Council that a Ball and Socket representative will be at the Council meeting to explain this item. The grant has to do with remediation work. The organization hopes to get a certificate of occupancy and Fire Marshal approval to open a section of the building in the near future. He explained that the Council is being asked for approval to submit the grant application, and there will be tight strings attached to this grant, if it is received.

Agenda item #24 is the original grant approved for \$400,000 for the study, and Ball and Socket is now requesting another \$200,000 to complete phases 2 and 3 of the project. For this grant, Cheshire is the pass through for the funds.

The subject grant of \$750,000 is given to the Town of Cheshire, and Mr. Milone said there must be assurance of greater control over these grant funds. CREC has a team that does remediation projects for municipalities. CREC is hired as the managing agent on these grants, with a team of people managing everything. This grant is a Town grant; the State permits Cheshire to apply on behalf of Ball and Socket; and it is uncertain if the grant allows for recovery of the Town's administrative costs.

VOTE The motion passed unanimously by those present.

24. Authorization to request an additional \$200,000 Municipal Brownfields Grant in support of the Ball and Socket Arts Inc. project.

MOTION by Ms. Nichols; seconded by Mr. Slocum.

MOVED to approve and move agenda item #24 to the full Town Council for approval.

Discussion

Mr. Milone said this is a request for another \$200,000 (above the original \$400,000) in grant funds to complete the remediation study.

VOTE The motion passed unanimously by those present.

25. Resolution Re: ICMA 401(A) Plan.

MOTION by Ms. Nichols; seconded by Mr. Slocum

MOVED to approve and move agenda item #25 to the full Town Council for approval.

Discussion

Mr. Jaskot explained that this is a proto-type document, and every six years the IRS requires change updates. It is a formality for Cheshire because no changes have been made, and Mr. Jaskot will take what is on the prior plan document and put the data onto the new plan document. The Town Attorney has looked at the document. This plan started in January 2014; not much has happened since that time; and the plan does contain extra benefits for active military personnel, who are Town employees.

VOTE The motion passed unanimously by those present.

26. Reauthorization of a CNR appropriation for reconstruction of Veterans' Memorial Plaza.

MOTION by Ms. Nichols; seconded by Mr. Slocum

MOVED to approve and move agenda item #26 to the full Town Council for approval.

Discussion

There was appropriation of funds for the interior sidewalks in the courtyard, with some funds remaining. There have been inquiries and interest from the Veterans Council about doing something for the Memorial Plaza. The original resolution was not specific enough to talk about the Plaza. Mr. Milone said the existing appropriation will be expanded with authority on how the Town can use the money for the Veterans Plaza. Any additional costs will be supplemented from the Public Works Budget. The lighting for this Plaza will be replaced at a cost of \$13,000.

VOTE The motion passed unanimously by those present.

27. Acceptance and appropriation of auction assets.

MOTION by Ms. Nichols; seconded by Mr. Slocum.

MOVED to approve and move agenda item #27 to the full Town Council for approval.

Discussion

This matter was discussed last year, and Mr. Milone explained the auction assets are from sale of vehicles and equipment, rather than trade-ins. The money will go towards the cost for acquisition of new trucks and other equipment.

VOTE The motion passed unanimously by those present.

28. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Ms. Nichols; seconded by Mr. Slocum.

MOVED to adjourn the meeting at 6:58 p.m.

VOTE The motion passed unanimously by those present.

Attest:

Marilyn W. Milton, Clerk