

**MINUTES OF THE CHESHIRE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY,  
OCTOBER 13, 2015 AT 7:30 P.M. IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 84 SOUTH MAIN  
STREET, CHESHIRE CT 06410**

Present

Tim Slocum, Chairman; David Schrumm, Vice Chairman; Patti Flynn-Harris, Liz Linehan, Sylvia Nichols, Robert Oris, Jr., Thomas Ruocco, James Sima, Peter Talbot. Staff: Michael A. Milone, Town Manager; Town Attorney Al Smith; James Jaskot, Finance Director; PW Director George Noewatne; Town Engineer Walter Gancarz; Economic Development Coordinator Gerald Sitko.  
Guest: David Pelletier, ECD Chairman.

**2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The group Pledged Allegiance to the Flag.

Chairman Slocum expressed appreciation to Tower Farms for the pumpkins and Mum plants in the Council Chambers.

Chairman Slocum commented on the dedication of the nine Council members who attend many meetings and work hard on behalf of the citizens of Cheshire. He encouraged citizens to vote on November 3rd.

**3. PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS**

Matt Bowman, 422 Maple Avenue, also commented on the hard work and diligence of Councilors on behalf of the Town. He cited the last Council meeting at which the Chairman shut off discussion on a topic when Ms. Linehan was making a comment. Mr. Bowman stated the Chairman should listen to comments as Councilors are elected to represent the people of Cheshire.

In response, Chairman Slocum said he cut off further debate on the issue, has only done this two times in his tenure as Chair, because there was additional business to attend to and he wanted to move the meeting forward.

Tim White, 1682 Orchard Hill Road, talked about the performance contracting \$10 million Amerseco deal, building management systems, and moving forward with the systems which have value. He said there will be future information to be used related to Moody's Services, and thanked Ms. Flynn-Harris and Mr. Sima for their time spent on this matter.

**A. Public Comments.**

**4. CONSENT CALENDAR**

MOTION by Mr. Schrumm; seconded by Mr. Ruocco.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Council approves Resolution #101315-1.

RESOLUTION #101315-1  
CONSENT CALENDAR FOR OCTOBER 13, 2015

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Council approves the Consent Calendar for October 13, 2015 as follows:

- A. Acceptance and appropriation of a \$50 anonymous donation to the Human Services Gift Account for general purposes.
- B. Acceptance and appropriation of a \$50 donation in honor of Leo R. Mirabelli to the Jitney Bus Fund.
- C. Acceptance and appropriation of a \$2,180 donation from the Friends of The Cheshire Public Library in the Library Gift Account to be used for Signage outside the Children's Room.
- D. Acceptance and appropriation of donations totaling \$24 to the CPFA Gift Account for annual scholarships.
- E. Authorization to apply for a \$1,500 Connecticut Humanities Council Grant to fund Library cultural programming.
- F. Authorization to apply for a \$7,500 "Curiosity Creates" grant from the American Library Association to be used for program materials and Technology for STEM programming and outreach.

VOTE           The motion passed unanimously by those present.

**5.    ITEMS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT CALENDAR**

**6.    OLD BUSINESS**

- A.    Authorization to apply for Connecticut Community Foundation Grant For the purchase of "My Senior Center" software program.**

MOTION by Mr. Schrumm; seconded by Ms. Flynn-Harris.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Council approves Resolution #101315-2.

RESOLUTION #101315-2

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Council authorizes application for a 50\$ matching grant in the amount of \$5,340 for the purchase of My Senior Center software program.

Discussion

This matter was sent to the Planning Committee for full discussion, and Mr. Schrumm said it is a good program that will reduce administrative expenses and free up revenue for other programs at the Center.

Mr. Sima noted the Planning Committee discussed this matter, received much information, and moved the matter to the full Town Council. He said the system will track seniors (residents and out of towners) coming in and out of the Center, program registrations, and there is a plan in place to offset renewal costs of the software program.

Ms. Flynn-Harris explained the software program has an "I.D.badge" to be swiped, will remove the manual check in with signatures, provide automated sign in and out, and tracking of people using the programs. She said Ms. Piccerillo and Ms. Ferrell did a lot of work researching the new software program and thanked them for their efforts.

VOTE           The motion passed unanimously by those present.

## **7.     NEW BUSINESS**

### **A.     Approval of property naming request in honor of Peter Gode.**

MOTION by Mr. Sima; seconded by Ms. Nichols

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Council approves Resolution #101315-3.

#### RESOLUTION #101315-3

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Council approves installation of a stone with an imbedded plaque at the Public Works Garage in memory of former Town Employee Peter Gode.

#### Discussion

Mr. Sima stated the stone with plaque will honor Mr. Gode, and it will be placed at the picnic table area. Costs will be paid out of the PW Department budget.

It is unknown if the installation of the stone and plaque will be in place by the 15th anniversary of Mr. Gode's passing, and Town Manager Milone said there will be an acknowledgement ceremony on the anniversary date.

Mr. Oris stated this is a great way to honor Mr. Gode on the 15th anniversary of his tragic death, and to honor his service to the community.

VOTE           The motion passed 8-0-1; Schrumm opposed.

### **B.     Disposal of Surplus Property Policy.**

MOTION by Mr. Sima; seconded by Ms. Flynn-Harris.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Council approves Resolution #101315-4.

RESOLUTION #101315-4

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Council approves the Policy for Disposal of Surplus Town Property as presented and attached.

Discussion

This matter has been through the Planning Committee for two years and Mr. Sima said the policy has been cleaned up. The item(s) can be traded in for new purchases; transferred to another department; items with under \$3,000 value shall be offered as a donation to local non-profit and civic organizations; items with over \$3,000 value will be auctioned by a clearing house; if items are not sold they will be donated to local organizations who are on the list, first come, first serve basis; if item is not disposed of at this point it will be offered to the public at no cost.

With regard to estimation of the market value of the equipment/items, Mr. Milone said he would be working with Town Assessor Panagrosso on this issue. Town department heads will also collaborate on a depreciation schedule. This policy does not include BOE items as they have their own methods, using equipment in offices and schools, and auctioning equipment. Mr. Milone will meet with Ms. Piccerillo who will compile a complete listing of organizations in the Town and region to be used when there is equipment for disposal.

Ms. Linehan said she is pleased to see donations to local non-profit groups which is a nice bridge, town to community.

VOTE The motion passed unanimously by those present.

**C. Call for Public Hearing regarding ordinance amendment for tax exemption Of renewable energy generating systems.**

MOTION by Ms. Nichols; seconded by Mr. Sima

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Council approves Resolution #101315-5

RESOLUTION #101315-5

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Town Council shall hold a public hearing to consider an ordinance amendment for renewable energy sources tax exemption, Section 17-16 (new), and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Manager shall cause a notice of said public hearing to be posted and published according to law, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the date, time, and place or any postponements thereof shall be determined by the Town Manager with the approval of the Chairman of the Council.

Discussion

According to Ms. Nichols this ordinance change came about from Macy's for a property tax abatement, with adoption of a 45% abatement for renewable energy systems. She read the new Section 17 into the record.

VOTE           The motion passed unanimously by those present.

**D.    Increase of current Charter public hearing and referendum limits for Special Appropriations.**

MOTION by Mr. Schrumm; seconded by Mr. Ruocco.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Council approves Resolution #101315-6

RESOLUTION #101315-6

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Council amends the Special Appropriation dollar limits in accordance with Section 7-3(j) of the Town Charter as follows:

7-3€    Any special appropriation not exceeding *two hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000)* may be approved by the Council.

(D)    Any special appropriation which exceeds *two hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000)* but does not exceed *four hundred thousand dollars (\$400,000)* may be approved by the Council only following a public hearing called by the Council and noticed pursuant to Section 1-5 of this Charter. Notice of the making of such appropriation shall be published once in a newspaper having a substantial circulation in the Town. Such appropriation will be subject to referendum if a petition requesting a referendum, signed by at least ten percent (10%) of the electors, is submitted to the Town Clerk within twenty-one (21) days following publication of notice of the making of such appropriation. The referendum shall be held pursuant to Section 7-3 (G) of this Charter no later than forty-five (45) days following the Town Clerk's certification to the Council of the timeliness and completeness of the petition calling for the referendum.

€       Any special appropriation which exceeds *four hundred thousand dollars (\$400,000)*, may be approved by the Council only following a public hearing called by the Council and noticed pursuant to Section 1-5 of this Charter. Such a special appropriation must be approved by the voters at a referendum held pursuant to Section 7-3 (G) of this Charter. The referendum shall be held no later than ninety (90) days following the Council vote to approve the special appropriation.

(F) To the extent any appropriation in excess of *two hundred thousand dollars (\$200,00)* is to be funded from the proceeds of grants, insurance, gifts, or other off-setting reimbursements, the amount of the appropriation to be funded from such sources may be approved by the Council in the manner provided in Section 7-3 (D) of this Charter, and such amount shall not be included in determining whether a referendum is required pursuant to Section 7-e € of this Charter. The Council may authorize the transfer of funds from any undesignated fund equity balance, if any, in anticipation of the receipt of said grants, insurance, gifts or other offsetting reimbursements.

Discussion

This resolution adjusts the amount of money required for a public hearing or referendum.

Mr. Schrumm explained the public hearing amount goes up to \$200,000, not to exceed \$400,000; referendum amount is \$400,000 approved by the Council following a public hearing; any appropriation in excess \$200,000 funded from grant, insurance, gifts, of other off-setting reimbursements can be approved by the Council and not be included in determining whether a referendum is required. Under the Town Charter, the Council can change these amounts, and the last time it was done was in March 2006. The current changes are adjusted for inflation while still giving the public the power to vote on anything over \$400,000.

PUBLIC

Tim White stated it is good to change the numbers, and asked about changing numbers for cumulative projects.

Mr. Milone informed the meeting that there are two BOE referendum items in November, under \$350,000, due to aggregation of multiple appropriations.

In the past, BOE projects were not "district wide" and Mr. Sima explained that future projects will be specific, i.e. windows, roof, etc.

VOTE           The motion passed unanimously by those present.

**E.     Appropriation of Supplemental LOTCIP grant proceeds for Mountain Road Repavement Rehabilitation Project and authorization to execute project authorization letter.**

MOTION by Mr. Ruocco; seconded by Mr. Sima

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Council approves Resolution #101315-7

RESOLUTION #101315-7

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Council accepts and appropriates an additional \$18,160.13 in LOTCIP funding for the Mountain Road Repavement Project, bringing the total LOTCIP funding for this project to \$717,577,20; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Manager Michael A. Milone is authorized to execute the Project Authorization Agreement with the Connecticut Department of Transportation for said project.

Discussion

Mr. Ruocco stated the \$700,000 is based on the low bid, the project came in higher, and the LOTCIP grant funding was revised.

VOTE           The motion passed unanimously by those present.

**F.     Gasoline pricing agreement extension**

MOTION by Mr. Ruocco; seconded by Mr. Sima.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Council approves Resolution #101315-8

RESOLUTION #101315-8

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Manager and other proper officers are hereby authorized, directed and empowered to extend the term of the Agreement with East River Energy for unleaded gasoline for a period up to three (3) years beyond December 2015, and to agree to a Blended Price if the Town Manager believes that such extension and re-pricing are in the best interests of the Town; to agree from time to time in the future to re-pricing during the term of the Agreement if he concludes it is in the best interests of the Town; and to execute on behalf of the Town such amendments to the Agreement as may be necessary to consummate any such extension and re-pricing authorized by the Town Manager.

Discussion

Mr. Ruocco stated there is the opportunity to get better gasoline pricing to 2018.

The Council was informed by Mr. Jaskot that the options are due to gas pricing being low, and options are on a calendar year basis. Mr. Jaskot distributed information on the gasoline contract options and potential savings for extend and blend with East River Energy contract. The current contract ends December 31, 2015, and the request for the Town Manager to have flexibility to consider locking in gas prices now, extending and blending the contract up to three (3) years beyond December 31, 2015. The current price is \$2.81 for regular unleaded gas (Police Department), and \$2.87 for mid-grade unleaded gas for Public Works Department. The Town has participated in a consortium bid process through the Capital Region Council of Governments (CRCOG), which begins the process in November. However, the Town may want to consider extending the current contract to fix rates now while they are low. The blended prices

would be in effect for the rest of the calendar year if the contract is extended and blended.

With extend and blend, the prices per gallon would be: 2016 - \$1.85; 2017 - \$1.92; 2018 - \$1.96. There are taxes and fees on top of the per gallon cost, but the per gallon price would still be under \$2.00. The resolution before the Council gives the Town Manager authority to use his discretion on the contract options.

Last five (5) years per gallon prices were cited by Mr. Jaskot. 2011 - \$2.46; 2012 - \$2.92; 2013 - \$2.86; 2014 - \$2.95; 2015 - \$2.82.

There is also an option to average pricing for three (3) years FY 2016-FY 2018, at \$1.91 per gallon. The Town can also ride out this year at \$2.81 per gallon, and starting January 1, 2016 the pricing will be \$1.85 per gallon. There can also be a fixed rate for three (3) years at \$1.91 per gallon. This is a calendar year contract. Mr. Jaskot pointed out that the pricing changes daily, and East River has been a good provider and departments are pleased with their pricing.

Mr. Milone pointed out this is current pricing; nothing has been locked in right now on these options; and he will bring a decision back to the Council before the November meeting. He does not want to wait too long, and Mr. Jaskot consults with the advisor on whether or not Cheshire should take the options.

Mr. Jaskot cited the calendar year savings over the current contract at \$22,000 regular unleaded in 2016, and \$22,000 for mid-grade unleaded. With Council approval prices can be locked in tomorrow; prices change each day; but there is no pressure from East River Energy. Gasoline drop sites are the Police Department, Fire Department and PW Department Garage. There is an arrangement with Chesprocott for gasoline with billing at the end of the year. The Town uses 50,000 gallons of gasoline each year, but it has been decreasing.

The proposal was supported by Mr. Oris who noted it is a way to save taxpayers money without gambling and waiting until December.

VOTE           The motion passed unanimously by those present.

**G.     Purchase and conversion of Town streetlights.**

MOTION by Mr. Oris; seconded by Mr. Sima

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Council approves Resolution #101315-9

**RESOLUTION #101315-9**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Council approves the purchase of 490 single service streetlight poles and 1,772 LED fixtures and lights from Eversource, and



BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Council authorizes Town Manager Michael A. Milone to execute the Agreement with Siemens for the installation of said fixtures at a total project cost not to exceed \$1,200,000, which will be paid out of annual operating savings, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Council authorizes the Town Manager to apply for all Energy Rebates associated with this project.

Discussion

Mr. Oris stated this is the purchase of 490 light poles and 1700 lights which will be converted to LED, resulting in \$1 million in savings over the next 15 years, and better lighting with no cost to taxpayers. \$464,663 is the cost of the project, and Eversource holds it for 90 days until November 29th. Conversion to LED lights is \$690,000; there is a 10% contingency allowance; total cost is \$1.155 million. There is a \$177,000 one time rebate from Eversource, additional savings over the course of many years, and the purchase will be financed by the savings incurred in the first 10 years. When the project is paid for there will be additional savings to the Town.

Town Engineer Gancarz informed the Council on the research which shows the life expectancy of a pole at 35 to 40 years; \$3,000 replacement cost per pole; and inclusion of the poles in the Town's insurance policy at \$2,100 per year premium. Siemens is offering a financial arrangement of 2.9% interest, and Bank of America (through PURA) has a rate of 1.9% to 2%. Finance Director Jaskot will be checking into the financing. The 30 cents per kwh rebate is still in effect until November 29th.

Ms. Flynn-Harris commented on inclusion of the poles and lights into the insurance plan, the hard work of the Town Engineer for this project, and commended the Energy Commission for its work on the project.

It was clarified by Mr. Sima that the Town is buying poles and lights, not cable and telephone lines. He asked about Route 10 lights being part of the Town ownership or if the State retains them, and the lights on Routes 10, 68 and 70, and future State requests for lights going to the Town.

Stating they seem to be the Town's Mr. Gancarz will check on this and advise Council.

PUBLIC

Tim White approves of the light and pole purchase, and asked about making Cheshire nicer with lights on West Main Street.

VOTE           The motion passed unanimously by those present.

**H.       Authorization to use up to \$127,500 in performance contracting rebate funds for replacement of deficient furnace at the Youth Center.**

MOTION by Mr. Sima; seconded by Ms. Flynn-Harris.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Council approves Resolution #101315-10

RESOLUTION #101315-10

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Council authorizes the use of \$9,870 in performance contracting rebate funds for the replacement of a deficient oil furnace and conversion to a natural gas heating system at the Youth Center, and appropriates said amount for this project.

Discussion

There are three (3) furnaces at the Youth Center; 2 have been converted to natural gas; and Mr. Sima advised the Planning Committee discussed the air-conditioning at the center at its recent meeting. There is a furnace in jeopardy, and the rebate the cost to the Town for the 3rd furnace is \$4,000.

PW Director Noewatne stated the Council has the decision on heat or geothermal. Work has been done to the center's furnaces, and it is not practical to rebuild the 3rd furnace which is shot. The actual cost will be \$3,947. There is a safety issue for occupants of the Youth Center in the winter season and the furnace requires immediate replacement.

There was no motion from the Planning Committee and Ms. Flynn-Harris said it is \$127,500 in the energy performance contract for both heating and air-conditioning, geothermal unit.

Mr. Noewatne stated the heating and a/c unit is \$68,900.

It was explained by Mr. Milone that PW Department has a sense of urgency with deteriorating pieces of equipment, and this furnace will not make it through the winter. The issue came before the Council without going through the Planning Committee based on this sense of urgency. He brought it to Mr. Slocum and Mr. Schrumm requesting it come before the Council, without suggesting any specific solution, but bringing options forward.

Mr. Sima stated the \$4,000 option is moved forward due to the heating season upon us as of October 15th. For a roof top unit it is 6 to 8 weeks out, and for \$4,000 we have a matching system with the other two furnaces. In the future we can look out to a geothermal system.

Stating his support of the resolution, Mr. Schrumm said it would have taken more time to vet a geothermal system. The net is \$4,000 for a heating system, and this is part of the Ameresco rebate money. When heating and a/c are considered the Town can look at a geothermal system, and he said the Youth Center is perfect for this system with all the land around it.

VOTE The motion passed unanimously by those present.

**I. Call for Public Hearing for \$350,000 increase of FY 15 operating budget  
For allocation of Surplus Fund Balance to Debt Service Reserve.**

MOTION by Mr. Schrumm; seconded by Mr. Ruocco.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Council approves Resolution #101315-11

RESOLUTION #101315-11

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Town Council shall hold a public hearing to consider a \$350,000 increase of the F.Y. '16 Operating Budget, allocating \$350,000 from Surplus Fund Balance to the Debt Service Reserve Account, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Manager shall cause a notice of said public hearing to be posted and published according to law, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the date, time, and place or any postponements thereof shall be determined by the Town Manager with the approval of the Chairman of the Council.

Discussion

Mr.Schrumm stated this is an increase in the operating budget which must be accounted for by taking some of the 2014 and 2015 surplus, putting it into the debt service reserve account. This is in anticipation of the 2018 debt spike for the treatment plant, and there would be \$6.1 million in this account.

VOTE The motion passed unanimously by those present.

**J. Housing Authority Insurance draft Tax Assessment Agreement  
(possible executive session)**

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

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Council approves Resolution #101315-12

RESOLUTION #101315-12

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Council approves the Tax Assessment Agreement by and between HAI Group and the Town of Cheshire at the amended employment level, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Manager is authorized and directed to execute on behalf of the Town said Agreement in the form and upon the terms and conditions as presented at this meeting.

Discussion

David Pelletier, Chairman EDC, reported that the Commission discussed this issue at its last meeting and supports the amendment to the HAI assessment agreement. Over the past 4 months he and Mr. Sitko have visited HAI, and he said it is a diverse company which will continue to grow and flourish in Cheshire. HAI recently acquired two companies which will increase its employment levels.

With Council approval, Mr. Sitko said this change will be noted in the percentage of tax break, reducing it to 41.5% with 160 employees.

Mr. Oris commented on this being important for economic development, along with preserving and growing the grand list, and the amendment sets the tone for marketing the community, keeping good companies which generates tax revenue. Mr. Oris noted HAI is a good neighbor to Cheshire.

Ms. Flynn-Harris supports the amendment to the agreement, and noted the excellent presentation by HAI to the Planning and Zoning Commission. One of the goals in the next fiscal year is incentives available for growing businesses and the tax base.

Mr. Sitko informed the Council that HAI started in Vermont, moved to Cheshire in 1997 with 12 employees, added expansions to its building, and now has 166 employees.

VOTE           The motion passed unanimously by those present.

**8. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS.**

**A. Monthly Status Report.**

**B. Department Status Reports.**

**C. Other**

Public Works Project Status - Director Noewatne reported to the Council on the status of projects.

Farmington Canal Linear Trail- paving program slightly delayed.

Mountain Road project under way; progressing well; the grant was received to complete the project; first course of paving will be done this week; second course later October or early November; completion date of November 22nd.

Senior Center basement project is out to bid with responses due October 22nd; PBC will review bids and make recommendation to the Council in November. Construction to start mid-December, will take 2-3 months, and March 2016 the space should be ready for use. Regarding the upstairs framing the PBC had an assessment done and the room has capacity of 142 people at one time, and without ability to use the 2nd floor the project would have to be redesigned. Senior Center staff and Ms. Piccerillo will be kept

informed of the project status. This is a fully funded project, expected to come in under the amount funded by the Council.

Ms. Flynn-Harris commented on the untrue rumors about there being no money for this project.

Town Manager Milone commented on concerns raised about staffing etc. at a recent center meeting. He noted the fact that the Council approved the increase of 5 hours per week for the Supervisor and Social Worker effective January 1, 2016. He will request Ms. Piccerillo to remind senior citizens of these facts. With the new software package everything will be easier at the Center.

The allocation of programs and limited space, along with out of town members at the Center was raised by Mr. Slocum.

In response, Mr. Milone said the new software will provide information on better utilization of programs, rearrangement of space based on need rather than history of programs. He will be talking to Ms. Piccerillo and Ms. Ferrell about the out of town memberships.

Regarding the Linear Trail, Mr. Noewatne reported the contractor will be petitioning for an extension of the end date to December 15th due to the last spring season, newer platform added to the contract and review time for the HAWK system. The trail will be paved with the first course by winter; all underground work is done; landscaping and seeding will not be completed until spring; the trail will be usable; second paving will be done if possible; crews on the site have been increased due to current good weather before winter sets in.

Mr. Milone said the entire trail will not snow plowed; only one section will be plowed; the second half going into Hamden will not be plowed so it can be used by cross country skiers.

With regard to the HAWK system, Ms. Linehan asked about it being 10 to 12 weeks out, the trail being opened and safety of the residents. She also asked about how long to install the system, effect on closing of West Main and businesses in the area.

The Council was told by Mr. Noewatne that this is a question left to the Police Department, Parks and Recreation and Town Attorney. West Main can be crossed without the HAWK system. The wiring and pedestal are already there; lights and poles have to be set with a crane; one lane will be left open during installation of the system; businesses are alerted to the work being done.

For the official opening of the Trail, Mr. Milone will get guidance and advise of staff, and come back to the Council with the final decision. The trail will not be opened until lights are up and in operation. With money left at the end of this project there could be more landscaping installed.

With the HAWK system 10 to 12 weeks out, Mr. Schrumm commented on the fact it could be spring before the system is installed.

Mr. Noewatne said \$2.6 million is the number that came in, with 10% to the Town or, \$260,000.

Stating the HAWK system is used in the southwest, Mr. Sima said it was brought to Cheshire by the DOT who wanted it installed before the southern piece of the trail so people could get used to the lighting system.

According to Ms. Flynn-Harris the West Main Street committee asked the State about the best way to cross West Main Street. The State would not support a lighting system, and the alternative was the HAWK system.

With the Mountain Road project, Mr. Oris pointed out the traffic problems and concerns out to Ives onto Route 10. He asked that the Police Chief be made aware so there is safe access, with a police officer at Ives for cars to get out. There are safety concerns.

Mr. Gancarz has met with the CPD for these reasons; this is why the southern detour started at Higgins Road to Route 10; there will be one officer at each end, and at Ives and Mountain Roads, and there will be discussion about relocation of the officer.

There are some construction trucks coming up Ives to West Main from Mountain Road, and Ms. Flynn-Harris expected them to come out at the light. Trucks should be relocated in the afternoon with school buses in this area.

Mr. Milone will discuss these issues with Mr. Gancarz and Chief Dryfe and report to the Council.

Monthly Financial Report - quarterly report will be completed and submitted to Council; the Budget Committee has concerns about another \$151,000 reduction in municipal aid to Cheshire; BOE is getting like amount in ECS funding; the Town is losing \$424,000 of W.S. Development expected revenue; this will be balanced out; there will be more tax collection money; the budget must be carefully watched; WWTP has almost no revenue; sewer use bills go out in December; and WPCA will make decision on this fee in November.

Electronics Recycling Event - Oct. 3rd event was very successful; another event will be held on November 7th at Darcey School.

Library Book Sale - October 22nd to 25th; preview on October 21st.

Connecticut Youth Services Association President - Micelle Piccerillo, Director of Human Services was congratulated on her presidency of this association.

Telecommunication Facility - Tower Farms cell tower is off the silo, and it did not require Siting Council approval. The tower needs repair, and with Town Attorney guidance it makes sense for the Siting Council to have control over this facility. Mr. Milone wrote to the Council requesting take over the authority and review of issues with this cell tower, so it does not fall on the Zoning Enforcement Officer to make decisions on this tower.

Attorney Smith stated the Siting Council has jurisdiction over cell towers and is the best enforcement agency.

Mr. Slocum commented on the Tower Farm owners welcoming the ZEO enforcement.

Statewide Emergency Planning/Preparedness Initiative - this will be held on October 21st, 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. for department heads and key education staff; it is a state wide trial to be held at one of the Cheshire schools. It will be a storm related event from a school response rather than town wide emergency response.

Cheshire School District Ranking - the district was ranked #20 from Niche.com .

Wallingford Solid Waste Project-Tip Fee reset - the Cheshire tip fee is \$65 per ton of refuse; the contract allows revisiting the tip fee every 5 years to reset at a lower rate. A consultant was hired; had tip fees from comparable facilities; and negotiations are in process; without resolution the matter goes to arbitration.

Civil War Monument - this summer is the 150th anniversary of the Civil War; Historical Society will have weekend of events; Cheshire is requested to upgrade the monument, and the Council must approve the cost of the upgrade. Prices will be secured for the base of the monument; grants will be pursued for the project; costs range from \$10,125 to \$19,075. The monument is on the Town Green property owned by the Church.

Mr. Slocum has been in good discussions with the Church. He noted the monument base is stable; there must be cleaning off the old material and repainting the monument.

DOC Letter - to be discussed in executive session.

Mr. Oris asked about the increase in motor vehicle arrests of 300 this year versus fewer last year.

This will be discussed with the Chief, and Mr. Milone said he believes it is a benefit of more police officers patrolling on the streets.

Chairman Slocum requested a report on the school bus passing violations.

Ms. Linehan commented on bus passing problems in her district, with the estimate of 70% of tickets by the West Main Street condos. Chief Dryfe is working on creative ways to prevent this from happening; everyone is looking into solutions; and she is working with the Chief to reduce the number of violations.

The Fire Department is going through the process of replacement of the Fire Marshal, has hired an outside consultant to look at the candidates, and CFD staff and volunteers are doing a good job handling the Fire Marshall business.

**9. TOWN ATTORNEY REPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS  
Executive Session**

**10. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES OF THE COUNCIL**

**A. Chairman's Report.**

- i. Referral to Planning Committee regarding Friends of Boulder Knoll underground water lines.**
- ii. Referral to Planning Committee regarding West Main Street Sidewalk extension STEAP grant redesignation.**
- iii. Referral to Personnel Committee regarding Library Personnel Adjustments.**

Ordinance Review Committee - Ms. Nichols had no report for this meeting.

Planning Committee - Mr. Sima reviewed the committee work at the September meeting. The committee is still looking at forestry planning to insure health forests in town, easy access out of the woodlands, and DEEP information was submitted to staff on this matter.

Budget Committee - Mr. Schrumm reported on the September 29th meeting, noting many of the agenda items were included in the Council meeting. More information is expected from the State regarding funding; 5 companies are interested in the CFD Ladder Truck RFP, with new ideas on how to get this done. Medical Benefits Trust Fund Policy was reviewed; it is a complicated system with various contracts with bargaining units, and should be more streamlined.

**B. Miscellaneous**

**11. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - Regular Meeting of September 8, 2015;  
Special Meetings of September 10, 22, 29 and 30, and October 1, 2015.**

MOTION by Ms. Flynn-Harris; seconded by Mr. Ruocco.

MOVED that the Town Council approves the minutes of September 8, 2015, September 10, 22, 29, 30 and October 1, 2015 subject to corrections, additions, deletions.

VOTE The motion passed unanimously by those present.



## **12. MISCELLANEOUS AND APPOINTMENTS**

### **A. Liaison Reports**

Public Building Commission - Mr. Sima reported on the walk through at the CHS locker rooms, rain falling and water coming into the boiler room and into the new locker room from the roof drain. PBC has concerns about this, and Mr. Noewatne was checking sheet rock to insure it was not wet, and if wet, will be replaced.

Pool project - Mr. Sima stated all anchor rods were tested; everything meets specs; November will have the foundation ready for the steel; the project is moving forward; the foundation must be 70% of strength in order to take the load of the structure.

WPCA - Mr. Schrumm invited everyone to the grand opening on October 16th, 10 a.m. He expressed appreciation to the WPCA for following through on the long and complicated process. Mr. Schrumm also acknowledged the work and dedication of Supt. Dievert and his staff at the treatment plant, as they labor in obscurity. They got through this construction project, under budget and on time. Thanks were expressed to Mr. Gancarz and Mr. Noewatne and Town staff involved with this project, the largest one in Cheshire history.

The Beautification Committee - wants more trees along Route 10, and Mr. Schrumm said they recommend more shade trees on West Main Street.

Department of Education - Mr. Oris advised the facilities master plan has been received; each school was visited; the report was presented to the BOE last week; the next step is the community committee work group to deal with the many areas of the report - Enrollment, Educational Programs, Internal and External Building Priorities. The BOE is looking for volunteers to serve on these working committees, and people can contact Mr. Masciana at the Dept. of Education.

High School Bathroom & Concession Stand Meeting -Mr. Oris reported the first committee meeting was held earlier on Oct. 13th; Tod Dixon was elected Chairman; the committee is working to develop a scope of work for the buildings; the next meeting is Oct. 20th to decide on how to move forward on the scope of the work.

Ms. Linehan expressed congratulations to Ms. Piccerillo on her election as President of the Connecticut Youth Association. She also encouraged people to come forward and serve on the BOE committees.

### **B. Appointments to Boards and Commissions**

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

MOVED to approve the appointment of Leslie Hutchison (D) to the Performing and Fine Arts Committee, to fill the vacancy of Maricele Rieman, term of office October 13, 2015 to January 31, 2017.

VOTE           The motion passed unanimously by those present.

**13. COUNCIL COMMUNICATIONS**

**A. Letters to Council.**

**B. Miscellaneous**

**14. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

MOTION by Mr. Schrumm; seconded by Mr. Ruocco.

MOVED that the Town Council enter Executive Session at 9:50 p.m. to include Town Manager Milone and Town Attorney Smith to discuss pending claims and litigation.

VOTE           The motion passed unanimously by those present.

MOTION by Mr. Schrumm; seconded by Mr. Ruocco

MOVED that the Town Council exit Executive Session at 9:57 p.m.

VOTE           The motion passed unanimously by those present.

**15. ADJOURNMENT**

MOTION by Mr. Schrumm; seconded by Mr. Ruocco.

MOVED to adjourn the Town Council meeting at 9:57 p.m.

VOTE           The motion passed unanimously by those present.

Attest:

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Marilyn W. Milton, Clerk