

MINUTES OF THE CHESHIRE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE 7:00 P.M. PUBLIC HEARING ON MONDAY, MARCH 20, 2017 (RESCHEDULED FROM TUESDAY, MARCH 14, 2017) IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS, TOWN HALL, 84 SOUTH MAIN STREET, CHESHIRE CT 06410

Present

Chairman Robert J. Oris, Jr.; Paul A. Bowman, Vice Chairman; Michael Ecke, Patti Flynn Harris, Sylvia Nichols, Thomas Ruocco; Timothy Slocum, Peter Talbot.
Staff: Michael A. Milone, Town Manager; Town Attorney Alfred Smith, James Jaskot, Finance Director. George Noewatne, PW Director; Gerald Sitko, Economic Development Coordinator.
Guests: Mark Nash, Chairman PBC and PBC member Art Crooker.

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. ITEMS FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION

A. Claims and litigation

B. Land acquisition

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

MOVED that the Town Council enter Executive Session at 7:10 p.m. to include Town Manager Milone, Town Attorney Smith; and Attorney Matthew Hall (and Keith Erickson at 7:35 p.m.) to discuss claims and litigation and land acquisition.

VOTE The motion passed unanimously by those present.

Attorney Hall and Mr. Erickson left the executive session at 7:55 p.m.

MOTION by Mr. Talbot; seconded by Mr. Bowman.

MOVED that the Town Council exit Executive Session at 8:05 p.m.

VOTE The motion passed unanimously by those present.

4. PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS

A. Public Comments

Liz Linehan, 405 Sycamore Lane, read her letter of resignation from the Town Council into the record. Ms. Linehan thanked Council members for all she learned from

working with them. She thanked Mr. Milone for his guidance and all she learned from him, and said she is a big fan of the Town Manager.

Chairman Oris stated Ms. Linehan will be missed, and everyone enjoyed working with her. He expressed his appreciation in their working together, and looks forward to working with her on the State level.

Ms. Linehan reported she is already working with State leadership to make sure certain provisions are out of the State budget, and she sees positive changes for Cheshire.

Mr. Slocum stated he enjoyed working with Ms. Linehan, and appreciated her efforts. He urged her to do the utmost for her constituents at the State level.

Ray Squier, 291 Cook Hill Road, thanked the Council for giving the public the opportunity to express their thoughts at meetings twice a month, and to the Cheshire Herald and its four times a month publication. Mr. Squier asked for one change in the Council Agenda - move the Town Manager's report to earlier in the meeting.

Chairman Oris moved agenda item 12B-i to current status on the agenda.

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

MOVED that the Town Council brings forth the appointment of Jeff Falk (D) to the Town Council to represent the Third District, filling the vacancy of Liz Linehan (D), term of office March 20, 2017 to December 4, 2017.

VOTE The motion passed 7-1; Mr. Ruocco opposed.

Councilor Nichols welcomed Mr. Falk to the Town Council, and she commented on his Chairmanship of the CHA, and his outstanding service and advocacy for the CHA.

Rep. Linehan swore Jeff Falk in as a Town Council member.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

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

MOVED to approve the minutes of Regular Meeting of February 15, 2017; Public Hearings of February 15, 2017; Special Meeting of February 28, 2017, subject to corrections, additions, deletions.

Corrections: Public Hearing and Meeting February 15, 2017 - change heading to "Wednesday"; Regular Meeting February 15, 2017, Consent Calendar - change "T" to read: "to the Jitney Bus Fund."

VOTE The motion passed 7-0-1; Falk abstained.

6. CONSENT CALENDAR

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

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Council approves Resolution #032017-1

RESOLUTION #032017-1
CONSENT CALENDAR FOR MARCH 20, 2017

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Council approves the Consent Calendar for March 20, 2017.

- A. Acceptance and appropriation of a \$125 donation from the Suburban Garden Club of Cheshire for a memorial plaque for Josephine Kowalski.
- B. Authorization to apply for a 2018 Historic Document Preservation Grant.
- C. Acceptance and appropriation of a \$2,050 donation from Elizabeth Skelton For a memorial bench, tree and plaque in honor of Devlin B. Skelton.
- D. Authorization to apply for a \$25,400 Connecticut Department of Transportation Distracted Driving Grant.
- E. Appropriation of \$3,700 from the Bright Idea Energy Grant for the purchase Of dryer duct cleaning vouchers for distribution to residents.
- F. Acceptance and appropriations of a donation of \$1,838.74 in proceeds From a Police Explorer Fundraiser to the Police Gift Account to support Police Explorer Programs.

VOTE The motion passed unanimously by those present.

7. ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT CALENDAR

8. OLD BUSINESS

A. Pond Dredging Policy

Chairman Oris stated that this matter will be discussed, if appropriate, during the capital budget process.

Councilor Ruocco stated this has been an issue for years. He advised that the person who requested funding for dredging his private pond has withdrawn the request.

9. NEW BUSINESS

A. Presentation by Historical District Commission regarding former Chapman Property and request for authorization to apply for a grant.

Elizabeth Fox, Chair, Historic District Commission, noted there was a copy of a power point presentation on the Stephen Ives Homestead given to the Council. The HDC is requesting authorization to apply for a grant to conduct a feasibility study of the property, which will have a zero net cost to the Town. The request also involves Council approval of access to the house for one (1) hour for a consultant and three (3) HDC members to inspect the house.

Ms. Fox reviewed the history of the Chapman Property, Chapman Genealogy, land records of the property and house, 1864 maps, the number of towns integrating historical houses into their parks (Fodor Farm, Norwalk; Bauer House, Madison; Parmalee Farm, Killingworth). Ms. Fox commented on Cheshire being a Local Certified Government which makes the HDC eligible for the subject grant, without a match by the Town. The study would identify an adaptable use for the house. She commented on the uses of historical houses, as micro-offices and other non-profit uses. Ms. Fox also noted the Plan of Conservation and Development supports the preservation of historic and cultural resources town wide.

After receipt of the grant for the study, Ms. Fox said the Town can apply for up to \$30,000 for a restoration grant. The subject grant submission date is May 15th; notification by the end of June; and then bid for an architect to conduct the feasibility study which should take six (6) months. There would be a focus group involved in the process. The Town is reimbursed at completion of the feasibility study which will focus on three (3) adaptive uses for the building, budget for exterior preservation and registry for historical buildings.

In response to a question from Ms. Flynn-Harris about how often the grant is available, Fox advised it is a rolling grant, and towns with historical district commissions are eligible for the grant which includes State and Federal funds.

With regard to the "six months" Ms. Flynn-Harris asked if the grant would cover all the items laid out in the time frame.

Ms. Fox replied that HDC was told six months as the time frame for the study, but it also depends on the architect selected and approved.

Stating he appreciates the informative presentation, Mr. Talbot asked about the Town laying out \$20,000 and getting reimbursed upon completion of the work.

According to Ms. Fox the funding is 1/3, 1/3 and 1/3.

On page 21 of the information to the Council, Mr. Talbot questioned what happens to the house, i.e. does it stay on the existing property and get renovated on site?

The Council was told by Ms. Fox that the original part of the house should be saved; additions removed; the first floor becomes handicapped accessible; the second floor can be office space for non-profit groups (micro offices), or the Ives house could be a community center.

Regarding the "zero" amount to the Town, Mr. Talbot pointed out page 21 which cites three adaptive uses for the house...and zero is zero no more. This is a concern right now, and he said there is still a price tag to the Town.

Ms. Fox stated half the cost (of \$100,000) comes from the State which is \$50,000; \$30,000 from tax credits; \$20,000 from the 1772 Foundation. Without this Foundation money, the Town pays the \$20,000. This saves the house, and it can be mothballed until a decision is made.

Mr. Slocum is not supportive of this recommendation. He cited the concern of coming up with three uses for the historical house with many issues. He does not foresee this as a win/win without defined use for the house, which is set far back on property that has just been purchased by the Town. Mr. Slocum commented on there being issues with State and Federal funding, and suggested the matter be put on the back burner, as it should not be considered to be important at this time.

There was a brief interactive discussion between Councilors and Ms. Fox on the Community Investment Act funding and preservation of buildings in Town, having an area with more public access, private use of the building(s), and not having public hands tied by other Town priorities.

Ms. Nichols stated her concern about these projects, noting that by the time these projects are preserved there is not much left of the original building...it is just an idea. Although she supports history, she agrees with her colleagues that such a project should be fitted into a bigger piece, and cannot be looked at as an individual project. Ms. Nichols supports tabling the item pending more information, details and answered questions.

Chairman Oris said he has many questions on this matter, and is not prepared to take action at this meeting as more time is needed for an appropriate decision.

MOTION by Ms. Flynn-Harris; seconded by Ms. Nichols.

MOVED to table Agenda Item 9A for further discussion.

VOTE The motion passed unanimously by those present.

(Ms. Nichols left the meeting at 8:45 p.m.)

B. Rescheduling of public hearing on the FY 17-18 General Operating, Water Pollution Control Department, and the Community Pool Budgets.

MOTION by Mr. Slocum; seconded by Mr. Ruocco.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Council approves Resolution #032017-4

RESOLUTION #032017-4

WHEREAS, on February 15, 2017, the Town Council called a public hearing for 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, March 28, 2017, in Council Chambers, Town Hall, 84 South Main Street, Cheshire Connecticut, to consider the proposed General Fund Operating Budget for Fiscal year 2017-2018, the proposed Water Pollution Control Department Fund Operating Budget for Fiscal Year 2017-2018, and the Community Pool Fund Operating Budget for Fiscal Year 2017-2018.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the date of this public hearing is hereby changed to **Wednesday, March 29, 2017**, at the same time and location, and the Town Manager shall cause a notice of said public hearings to be posted and published according to law.

VOTE The motion passed unanimously by those present.

C. Award of bid for Cheshire High School Emergency Generator to All Electric Inc. for \$174,000.

MOTION by Mr. Bowman; seconded by Ms. Slocum

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Council approves Resolution #032017-5

RESOLUTION #032017-5

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Council, pursuant to the recommendations of the Public Building Commission, awards a contract to All Electric Construction for \$174,000 for the installation of an emergency generator at Cheshire High School, and authorizes the Town Manager to execute said contract.

Discussion

On behalf of the Town Council, Chairman Oris expressed sympathy to PBC Chairman Nash on the recent loss of his Father.

With regard to the subject project, Mr. Nash informed the Council that All Electric has received the award for the CHS generator project. The company has been fully vetted; it is capable of doing this project; and a PBC member has had personal experience with the company and cited a positive recommendation to move forward with them.

Mr. Ruocco asked if the contract includes purchase and installation of the generator, and if CHS is a primary emergency center.

Town Manager Milone replied that the Youth Center is the first emergency center for a smaller number of people, and a larger group would require use of the high school.

Mr. Nash explained that there was a decision made to incorporate more of the high school facility for emergency use, and this now includes locker rooms, shower rooms and other areas. He said PBC wanted to maintain continuity of using DTC to complete this project.

Mr. Ruocco asked about the completion date of the project.

It will take 8 to 10 weeks, including delivery of the generator, and Mr. Nash said the work will start during the summer, with completion in the fall.

VOTE The motion passed unanimously by those present.

D. Award of bid for Districtwide Sidewalk Replacements to G. Pic Construction for \$157,475.35.

MOTION by Mr. Bowman; seconded by Mr. Slocum.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Council approves Resolution #032017-6

RESOLUTION #032017-6

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Council, pursuant to the recommendations of the Public Building Commission, awards a contract to G. Pic Construction not to exceed \$157,475.35, for the sidewalk replacement at Cheshire High School and Chapman Elementary School, and authorizes the Town Manager to execute said contract.

Discussion

This is an ongoing project at the schools, and Mr. Nash explained there is a certain amount of money for concrete sidewalk replacement. The company has been fully vetted, is willing to move forward with cited pricing, was the low bidder, and PBC is comfortable using G. Pic for this project. PBC member Mr. McKenney met with the firm and recommends them for the work.

Mr. Slocum said the bid is higher than the resolution, and asked if this is due to the appropriated funds.

In reply, Mr. Nash pointed out that the Town spends up to what it has for the project work, and stops when the funding ends. BOE representative Mr. Marsaglia reviewed the condition of the school sidewalks, inspected them worst to best, and this is how the project work moves forward. Mr. Nash recommended Councilors walk through the proposed areas of work to be done and see the conditions that have developed.

On the Town side, PW Director Noewatne advised there is a sidewalk rating system. However, these are BOE sidewalk properties, and some of the worst in Town are on BOE facilities.

VOTE The motion passed 7-0-1; Mr. Ecke abstained.

E. Approval of waiver of bid and award of design contract for Districtwide Generator Connection Project to Diversified Technology Consultants For \$14,500.

MOTION by Mr. Bowman; seconded by Mr. Talbot.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Council approves Resolution #032017-7

RESOLUTION #032017-7

WHEREAS, the Public Building Commission has requested a bid waiver for the design work for the installation of generator plug boxes at various Cheshire Public Schools, and

WHEREAS, the Public Building Commission has been very satisfied with DTC who recently completed design work for the emergency generator project at Cheshire High School, and feels it is in the best interest of the Town to award the design work for the generator plug boxes to DTC,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Council approves a bid waiver for said project, authorizes the award of the design work for said project to DTC for \$14,500, and authorizes the Town Manager to execute the necessary document.

Discussion

Mr. Nash informed the Council that DTC did the design work for CHS. The subject resolution is to provide potential hookup for generators at other facilities, and PBC wants to maintain continuity to use DTC to complete this project.

VOTE The motion passed unanimously by those present.

F. Approval of final design and authorization to go to bid for the Districtwide Lavatory Improvements at Cheshire Public Schools, Project at Norton School.

MOTION by Mr. Bowman; seconded by Mr. Talbot

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Council approves Resolution #032017-8

RESOLUTION #032017-8

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Council, pursuant to the recommendation of the Public Building Commission (PBC) approves the final design for the Districtwide Lavatory Improvements at Norton School, and authorizes the PBC to bid construction for said project.

Discussion

PBC Member Art Crooker reported that the drawings are done for renovation of the lavatories, and there is less involved than last year. The work involves redoing tile, window replacement, new fans, cleaning vents for better ventilation, appropriate handicapped space; and, there is no demolition involved. The work will be done in four (4) bathrooms (2 women and 2 men's bathrooms).

The appropriation is \$375,000, and Mr. Oris noted the project estimate is \$358,000, with a 15% contingency.

Mr. Crooker said that was correct; there is enough contingency; and ground work for this project was done during the last project. He noted asbestos is minimal for this project; toilets and hand dryers will be reused; and the project should go well.

With regard to prevailing wage requirements, Mr. Milone advised it is \$100,000 for renovation projects and \$400,000 for new construction.

VOTE The motion passed unanimously by those present.

Councilor Bowman commented on the Council thoughts and issues of oversight for projects and past instances of certain renovations, additions, new construction projects. Mr. Bowman asked the PBC to review this and come back to the Town Council with its thoughts and recommendations. Some projects need a Clerk of the Works, Construction Manager, and some projects are managed differently due to the scope of the work, price, etc. There are concerns about runoff, change orders, and need for oversight. This is a burden for PBC members to be at staff meetings, making decisions that could be made by someone checking the job more frequently, and having responsibility to do this. Mr. Bowman said having someone to do this oversight will have a cost, but it will take some responsibility off the PBC, with having a third party initiative to negotiate things, and keep an eye on what is happens. Having a design consultant doing their own review is not the best way to handle a project. Going forward we will be looking for PBC ideas in this regard.

Mr. Nash replied that the PBC will do this. He cited his agreement with Mr. Bowman and the Council. Oversight will cost money, but will save money in the long run. This matter will be on the agenda of the next PBC meeting.

Mr. Bowman stated that checking along the way on a project is the way to go. The Town PW Department does this for highway and road projects, but Mr. Bowman is not sure this is done for schools. Taxpayers will feel better knowing more eyes are on projects.

Chairman Oris also agrees with need for oversight or owner's rep on projects, someone who is vigilant throughout the entire process, beginning with being compliant with contractual obligations, time frames, project being done properly, etc. This is like value engineering with money well spent, saving the Town money at the end of a project.

G. Approval of Town's commitment and participation in the South Central Regional Water Authority's Regional Household Hazardous Waste Collection Center for three years.

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

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Council approves Resolution #032017-9

RESOLUTION #032017-9

WHEREAS, the South Central Connecticut Regional Water Authority, as agent for the South Central Regional Council of Governments and participating municipalities, has undertaken the permitting, construction and operation of a regional facility for the collection of household hazardous waste and conditionally exempt small quantity generator business waste at its headquarters at 90 Sergeant Drive in New Haven; and

WHEREAS, the municipalities participating in the facility are able to have residents drop off their household hazardous waste on Saturday Mornings (9 am-Noon), and conditionally exempt small quantity generators deliver business waste on Saturday morning (by appointment from 7 am-8:30 am), from spring through fall for proper processing, transportation, and disposal; and

WHEREAS, the facility is owned, managed and operated under the supervision of the South Central Connecticut Regional Water Authority for the benefit of the participating municipalities;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOVLED, that the Town of Cheshire declares its commitment to continue participation in the regional household hazardous waste collection center for a minimum three-year period (July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2020), and confirms its intent to contribute financially for the operation, processing, transportation, and disposal of household hazardous waste.

The Town of Cheshire authorizes its Town Manager to enter into this agreement with the South Central Connecticut Regional Water Authority for the operation of the facility. Such agreement will permit the Authority to act as its agent to maintain the facility, to contract with a vendor for the transportation and disposal of the wastes, to receive financial support from grant sources, to enter into agreements with other municipalities, and to operate the facility. Invoicing will be based on a two-part formula:

1. Annual operational costs are based on the number of 1 and 2 family housing Units,

2. Annual transportation and waste disposal costs are prorated by residents' usage. This resolution shall be effective July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2020.

Discussion

Mr. Slocum stated that the actual cost to the Town is about \$22,500 annually based on the number of one and two family housing units.

Mr. Milone noted the cost is consistent, and it is \$22,500 for next year.

VOTE The motion passed unanimously by those present.

H. Approval of application for Small Cities Community Development Block Grant Program on behalf of the Cheshire Housing Authority and Authorization to execute grant documents.

MOTION by Mr. Slocum; seconded by Mr. Talbot.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Council approves Resolution #032017-10

RESOLUTION #032017-10

WHEREAS, federal monies are available under the Connecticut Small Cities Community Development Block Grant program, administered by the State of Connecticut, Department of Housing, pursuant to Public Law 93-3 83, as amended; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Chapter 127c, and Part VI of Chapter 130 of the Connecticut General Statutes, the Commissioner of Housing is authorized to disburse such Federal monies to local municipalities; and

WHEREAS, it is desirable and in the public interest that the Town of Cheshire make application to the State for \$800,000 in order to undertake a Small Cities Community Development Program, and to execute an Assistance Agreement therefore, should one be offered.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL:

1. That it is cognizant of the conditions and prerequisites for State Assistance Imposed by Part VI of Chapter 130 of the Connecticut General Statutes; and,
2. That the filing of an application by the Town of Cheshire in an amount not to exceed \$800,000 is hereby approved, and that the Town Manager is hereby authorized and directed to file such Application with the Commissioner of the Department of Housing, to provide such additional information, to execute such other documents as may be required by the Commissioner, to execute an Assistance Agreement with the State of Connecticut for State financial

assistance if such an Agreement is offered, to execute any amendments, rescissions, and revisions thereto, to carry out approved activities, and to act as the authorized representative of the Town of Cheshire.

VOTE The motion passed unanimously by those present.

10. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS

A. Monthly Status Report - in Council packets

**B. Department Status Reports: Police, Fire, Fire Marshal.
In Council packets**

C. Other Reports

Monthly Financial Report - this will be discussed at the Tuesday Budget Committee/Special Council meeting; Mr. Jaskot put together a three-page summary of where finances are; the Town is in good shape provided the freeze is maintained.

Eversource Natural Gas Line Extension - Mr. Milone reported Eversource is looking at the Wolf Hill, Nob Hill, Blacks Road, Cheshire Street and South Meriden Road areas to install gas lines; it affects about 429 residents, 9.4 miles; 60% of available residents is required to sign up before the program proceeds. There are some benefits, some disadvantages, with much road work involved. Eversource will hold a public information session on April 6, 2017. There is not much the Town can do to block this program, but there is much that can be done to make conditions relative to the conditions of Town roads.

Regional Water Authority - Water Main Extension. Mr. Milone noted the Town has been trying to extend water main extensions on Moss Farms Road. RWA has agreed to finish this project for the Town, about 2200 linear feet, and a project cost of \$250,000. RWA will connect the missing links on Moss Farms Road; we will have redundancy; and another benefit is RWA giving Cheshire money to do the curb to curb paving as has been done in other RWA projects. Don Nolte negotiated this with RWA, and Mr. Milone commended him for his work in this project.

RWA Residential Water Assistance Program - Mr. Milone reported on the RWA establishing a water assistance program. It gives people with limited income a grant of \$80 towards their water bill. This program will be publicized in the next week or two, along with notification by Mr. Milone to Human Services and Senior Services for participation by eligible residents.

Credit Rating Information - the information and report is in the packets; Cheshire sustained its AAA rating; the official statement was given to the Council, and it includes a multitude of information.

Economic Development Commission 2017 Work Plan - this plan is in the packets; EDC has started to work on the report presented to Council at the last meeting. The schedule is given to the Council so it can see the milestones established and what is hoped to be achieved in the next few months.

Town Hall Water Damage Update - the work is almost completed; more work is to be done in the halls, with wainscoting to be installed; \$141,000 has been spent to date; total cost is \$169,000; the insurance will cover all these costs; the records damaged in the basement storage will be sent out for restoration, with unknown costs at this time, and insurance company will also cover this cost.

Charter Revision Schedule - minor changes to the schedule for Council information.

Legislative Activities - Mr. Milone sent a letter to Cheshire's delegation, and copy of the letter is in the packets. This letter summarizes the critical issues being dealt with as the budget is being put together, specifically as it relates to State created problems, and dollar amount imposition of those changes. The Town has had active participation in the legislative process -- Elizabeth Maine from Parks Department Committee on Protection of Youth/Student Athletes from Concussions, Bill Donlin, Tax Collector, has been to Hartford testifying on interest amount charged on taxes which we want to reduce, and change in the law on tax lien sales; Michelle Piccerillo, President of Youth Service Association of Connecticut, has testified three times on a number of bills, and has sent testimony relative to body worn cameras. Mr. Milone commented on Cheshire having a continued presence in the legislative process, and this will be continued in the hopes of protecting the Town's interests as much as possible.

Public Works Project Status Report - in the packets. At the next meeting the Council will have the list of roads to be done.

Linear Trail Cornwall to West Main Street - construction started March 20th; it will continue to October 7, 2018, at a cost of \$4.4 million. The Town continues to look for grants to expand the parking. A grant proposal is in to Rep. Esty; a grant proposal was given to State Rep. Linehan; and Cheshire has opportunity to apply for another STEAP grant.

Arisco Farms Town Property Rental - Mr. Milone reported that the agreement makes clear that only pesticides and herbicides and chemicals approved in crop farming operations can be used, which are accepted by the Federal EPA and CT DEEP. Mr. Arisco identified the sources he is using, which conform with DEEP regulations.

Upcoming Meetings -

- a) Budget Workshops - Tuesday, March 21, 2017, Room 207, 6:30 p.m.
- Wednesday, March 22, 2017, Room 207, 6:30 p.m.
- Thursday, March 23, 2017, Room 207, 6:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, March 28, 2017, Room 207, 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, March 29, 2017, Public Hearing, Council Chambers, 7:00 p.m. and Budget Workshop immediately following public hearing.

b) Planning Committee, Tuesday, March 28, 2017, 6:00 p.m.

Mr. Bowman asked about a leak in the water company tank on Blacks Road.

Mr. Milone does not know if there is a leak; he will find out; and inform the Council.

11. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES OF THE COUNCIL.

A. Chairman's Report

i. Consideration of tax credits for the 2015 Local Elderly Property Tax Credit Program referred to the Budget Committee.

Budget Committee - Mr. Slocum stated that the goal is to keep the workshops to the time frame of two (2) hours.

Ordinance Review Committee - Ms. Flynn-Harris advised a meeting will be scheduled in the next few weeks.

B. Miscellaneous

12. MISCELLANEOUS AND APPOINTMENTS

A. Liaison Reports

Energy Commission - Mr. Talbot reported the Commission thanks the Council for the appropriation to the dryer duct cleaning.

Arts Place - Ms. Flynn-Harris reported on the very successful 29th Arts Day on March 13th. This is a free event, and many more children participated than in the past years.

B. Appointments to Boards and Commissions

MOTION by Mr. Talbot; seconded by Mr. Slocum.

MOVED that the following appointments and reappointments be approved by the Town Council.

Appointment of Bill Tanner (D) to the Cheshire Housing Authority to fill the vacancy of Jeff Falk; term of office March 20, 2017 to May 31, 2018.

VOTE The motion passed unanimously by those present.

MOTION by Mr. Slocum; seconded by Mr. Talbot.

MOVED that the following appointments and reappointments be approved by the Town Council.

Appointment of Lisa Franco (U) to the Historic District Commission to fill the vacancy of Christine Pittsley (D); term of office March 20, 2017 to January 31, 2022.

Economic Development Commission: Appointment of Donald Dobbs (U) to fill the vacancy of Louis M. Nero Sr.; term of office March 20, 2017 to January 31, 2021.

Economic Development Commission: Appointment of Peter Nichols (R) to fill the vacancy of Raymond Voelker; term of office March 20, 2017 to January 31, 2018.

Public Building Commission: Mark Nash (R) to fill the vacancy of Edward Hill; term of office March 20, 2017 to January 31, 2018.

Public Building Commission: Phillip Bowman (U) to fill the vacancy of Mark Nash; term of office March 20, 2017 to January 31, 2021.

Public Safety Commission: James Macdonald (R) to fill the vacancy of Lisa DeAngelo; term of office March 20, 2017 to January 31, 2021.

VOTE The motion passed unanimously by those present.

13. TOWN ATTORNEY REPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS
No report.

14. COUNCIL COMMUNICATIONS

A. Letters to Council.

Chairman Oris read letters from Joan Johnson and James Flood into the record of the meeting.

Chairman Oris read the Waterbury Republican/American editorial on the Cheshire teachers' contract arbitration into the record of the meeting. The editorial commended the Cheshire Town Council for its unanimous vote to send the contract to arbitration, and bringing the strong case to the panel of arbitrators which prompted a favorable ruling.

B. Miscellaneous

Mark Nash, PBC Chairman, addressed the Council about his reappointment to the Public Building Commission. Due to the way his nomination was worded, Mr. Nash stated at this point in time he respectfully declines the re-nomination to the PBC "to replace Edward Hill." Mr. Nash respects the nomination, but does not respect the way it was worded, and this was not the agreement he understood.

Councilor Slocum noted Mr. Nash's nomination said "to replace Edward Hill", and the other nomination said "to replace Mark Nash". He did not want to cast any dispersion towards Mr. Nash, and apologized if that happened. Mr. Slocum has spoken in defense of Mr. Nash many times, including during the nomination process, and he supports Mr. Nash as a PBC member.

Mr. Nash stated he feels tremendously slighted by this nomination.

Chairman Oris asked Mr. Nash if this was about his reappointment for only one year.

In response, Mr. Nash said it is the reappointment for only one year, and filling the seat of Edward Hill.

Mr. Slocum noted the other term being filled is the longer term, with Mr. Nash taking a one year term.

Chairman Oris stated the Council normally takes instruction from the RTC and DTC on nominations. They are pre-approved prior to coming before Town Council.

In that regard, Ms. Flynn-Harris stated it is inappropriate for an RTC member to make a statement, as this is an internal question within RTC discussion. It is not a full Town Council issue.

It was stated by Mr. Nash that he takes exception to the way the RTC has advanced his reappointment.

Mr. Oris commented on Mr. Nash wanting it to be for a full term rather than only one year...and not only to extend his own term, but to fill the remaining period of time on another person's term. He noted Mr. Nash's term would be filled by another person whose nomination was approved tonight by the Council.

Ms. Flynn-Harris said that is why she was asking if this discussion belongs off the Council table and back to the RTC.

Chairman Oris stated that Mr. Nash has served well; he supports Mark Nash on the PBC; and the Council supports Mr. Nash on the PBC and the excellent job he performs.

Mr. Oris asked RTC Nominating Committee member Louis Nero, who was in attendance at the meeting, to address the Council on why the nominations to PBC were done this way.

In that regard, Ms. Flynn-Harris stated her agreement with Mr. Oris' statements. However, she said it is inappropriate for the Chair of the RTC Nominating Committee give an explanation to the Council. This is the internal business of the RTC and how the decision was made.

Mr. Oris agrees this is a party issue, and should be addressed by the Republican party and not the full Council.

Mr. Slocum agreed that the matter should be handled through the RTC.

Mr. Bowman stated this should be discussed at the next meeting, and agrees with Ms. Flynn-Harris that the issue should be discussed separately. The appointment forms come forward to the Town Council and Council does not see them until they are presented at the meeting. There is a need to rethink the process.

At this point, Mr. Oris requested Mr. Nash to continue and stay in his position on the PBC in his current capacity, and not resign until the matter is vetted by the RTC.

In response, Mr. Nash stated he would agree to that, and respectfully requested review of the way the nomination was worded by the RTC.

MOTION by Mr. Slocum; seconded by Mr. Talbot.

MOVED that the Town Council withdraws the Public Building Commission nominations until the Republican Town Committee resolves the issues on these nominations.

VOTE The motion passed 7-1; Mr. Ruocco opposed.

15. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Mr. Talbot; seconded by Mr. Ruocco.

MOVED to adjourn the meeting at 9:46 p.m.

VOTE The motion passed unanimously by those present.

Attest:

Marilyn W. Milton, Clerk