

Minutes of the Town of Farmington
Regular Town Council Meeting
October 9, 2018

Present:

Nancy W. Nickerson, Chair
Patricia Boye-Williams
Bruce Charette
Paul Cianci
Edward Giannaros
Beth Kintner
C. J. Thomas

Kathy Eagen, Town Manager
Paula B. Ray, Clerk

A. Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

B. Pledge of Allegiance

The Council and members of the public recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

C. Public Hearing

There were no public hearings held.

D. Presentations and Recognitions

There were no presentations or recognitions.

E. New Items

There were no new items added to the agenda.

F. Public Comments

Brian Bell of 6 Nadia's Way distributed the letter recorded with these minutes as Agenda Item F-1 and told the Council why putting a cemetery on the former Tinty property was very concerning.

Michael Pritz of 2 Nadia's Way told the Council he had custom built his house on Nadia's Way and never would have selected the site if he knew a cemetery could go in. He had reviewed the deed to the Town of Farmington and believed Mr. Tinty had envisioned a recreational area not a cemetery. He asked the Council to consider the property values of the homes in the neighborhood and the mental wellbeing of the neighbors. He didn't want his children to be exposed to the death, loss, grief and sadness associated with a cemetery.

Jim Drake of 18 Old Canal Crossing told the Council he had known the Tintys, and they would not have wanted to have a cemetery made out of the field. He believed he wanted it to be preserved as a Revolutionary War historic site and a bird watching area with a dock on the river. He was also concerned about the area having wetlands. He told the Council he couldn't live next to a cemetery, and he planned to fight it going in.

Glenn Mosebach of 17 Old Canal Crossing told the Council it was a dumb idea to put in a cemetery on the Tinty property. He didn't believe that is what Mr. Tinty had envisioned for the property. Over the years he had seen many people with metal detectors looking for Revolutionary War artifacts. He believed the field had been an encampment site for Rochambeau. He asked the Town to consider the other sites on the list.

Laurie Tomkiewicz of 3 Old Canal Crossing told the Council she had moved here four years ago and didn't mind when the Nadia's Way development was put in, but she didn't want a cemetery put in the other part of the Tinty property. She believed the entry into the Town was well served by the Open Space, but a cemetery would make a bad impression.

Melinda Pritz of 2 Nadia's Way told the Council she had moved to Farmington from Plainville, and people who had known Mr. Tinty knew he wanted a park on the property. She was very careful about the selection of her home and believed it was a good choice because of this. She was a clinical supervisor of many clinicians, mental health therapists and multiple programs around the State. Her mental health and life balance had been affected by the proposal. She was suffering from vicarious trauma and dreaming about zombies. She asked for her community, family and her professional wellbeing to reconsider and remove Don Tinty Family Park from the list for a future cemetery.

Luma Chalabi of 10 Nadia's Way pointed out the name on the sign is the Don Tinty Family Park. She believed a cemetery wasn't a place for walking, playing or noise. A cemetery should be place to respect the dead. By ignoring the wishes of Mr. Tinty, future donations of property to the Town could be put in danger. She asked that the other properties on the list be re-evaluated, because the Tinty property was not an appropriate place for a cemetery.

Laura Pickett of 400 Main Street told the Council she had fallen in love with the property and described how it was living meadow. She was concerned about the wetlands being disturbed on the property and believed it was a spectacular treasure. She recounted that several of the people using metal detectors on the property had found 1700's coins. She wanted it to stay as it was.

Resident of 4 Nadia's Way told the Council this was his first house and his 2 year old son was born at this house. He didn't want his son to be exposed to death from a cemetery being his neighbor. He asked the Council to do the right thing and find another site for the cemetery.

Shriram Pathak of 12 Nadia's Way told the Council he had moved to Farmington 3 months ago and had done his due diligence on the property. He didn't believe the deed permitted it to be used as a cemetery. He was shocked to hear about the proposal. He asked the Council to respect the neighborhood and reconsider the location for the cemetery.

Monique Nadeau of 8 Old Canal Crossing told the Council she had moved to her home 18 years ago and had chosen it because of the open space near her home. She believed it would be very depressing to put a cemetery on the site and would have to move if it happened.

Urvis Pathak of 12 Nadia's Way told the Council the property was a safe and joyful place. She believed it should be kept that way, and another location needed to be considered for the cemetery.

Brenda Drake of 18 Old Canal Crossing told the Council she had agreed with all that everyone had said. She pointed out that her neighborhood already put up with noise and lights from Tunxis Meade, and it would be unfair to further affect their property values.

John Renehan of 27 Main Street told the Council he was on the Farmington Village Center Committee and had gained many insights about his Town from serving on the Committee. He recognized the engagement of the Town's people with their Town and he appreciated the hard work done by the Town staff especially Kathy Eagen, Town Manager and Bill Warner, Town Planner. He felt the process used to evaluate whether to buy the Parson's property had been very transparent and asked the Council to vote in favor of the Committee's unanimous decision to move the process forward to look into buying the property. He felt the residents of Farmington were all good stewards of the Town.

Karina Smith of 35 Hunter's Ridge told the Council she had serious concerns about the grass and shrubs blocking the line of sight for the road and sidewalk at 8 Hunter's Ridge. She believed this was in violation of the Town's Code regarding the Town's right of way and entered into the record the pictures recorded with these minutes as Agenda Item F-2.

Amanda Strauss of 16 Townsend Road told the Council it was premature to consider buying the Parson's property from the State of Connecticut until environmental and traffic studies had been done for the property. She believed the State was in no hurry to divest itself of the property and found the rush to move forward baffling. She asked the Council to not move forward until the studies were completed.

G. Reading of the Minutes

1. September 11, 2018 Regular Town Council Meeting
Motion was made and seconded (Charette/Giannaros) to approve the minutes of the September 11, 2018 Regular Town Council Meeting with the following corrections:

Minutes of the Town of Farmington
Regular Town Council Meeting
October 9, 2018

- a) Page one Mr. Giannaros was not absent
- b) Page six Ms. Boye-Williams name was reversed
- c) Page three correct the spelling of "charette" to charrette" for the charrette process.

Adopted unanimously

2. September 25, 2018 Special Town Council Meeting
Motion was made and seconded (Charette/Giannaros) to approve the minutes of the September 25, 2018 Special Town Council Meeting.

Adopted unanimously

H. Reading of Communications and Written Appeals

1. Correspondence from Kathleen Eagen to John Dunham, Department of Transportation.
2. Resident Correspondence – Westview Terrace

The Manager called the Council's attention to the items in their packet.

H. Report of the Committees

1. UCONN Health Committee

The Chair reported the next meeting was scheduled for November 8, 2018 at the Town Hall.

2. Land Acquisition Committee

Ms. Boye-Williams reported the Committee had sent out letters to Town residents whose property was on the Land Acquisition List for asking them to keep the Town in mind if they wanted to sell. Their next meeting was November 8, 2018 at 5:00 pm in Town Hall.

3. Green Efforts Committee

Ms. Boye-Williams reported the Committee had met the previous week and their next meeting was November 15, 2018. The Committee had formed a subcommittee to create a list of tasks the Committee could focus on to address their goal of reducing waste in the businesses to start and schools and residents to follow. They had started their blog on Explore Farmington, and the current topic was on invasive species and how to manage them in your landscaping.

4. FHS Ad Hoc Community Survey Committee

Ms. Kintner reported the final draft of the survey questions had been completed and the survey was scheduled to be done mid-October. It was a 40 question phone survey that took 10 minutes to complete and was given to 400 randomly chosen residents. The Committee expected a presentation on the results at their November 1, 2018 meeting.

5. FHS Ad Hoc Facility & Financial Committee

Mr. Giannaros commented that it had been helpful to collaborate with the FHS Ad Hoc Community Survey Committee. He reported they had completed a working financial model for the project that would allow a future building committee to explore different options for financing an FHS building project. The next meeting was scheduled for October 16, 2018. They planned to work on the Statement of Needs for FHS, a guest from the Guilford School Building Committee was attending to discuss their project and answer questions, and to review the different options considered by the last building committee.

6. Farmington Village Center Committee

Mr. Charette reported there was a resolution on the agenda later in the meeting regarding the Parson's property and their next meeting was scheduled for October 11, 2018 the Quality of Life sub-committee was meeting at 5:00 p.m. and the regular Committee was meeting at 7:00 p.m.

J. Report of the Council Chair and Liaisons

1. Chair

The Chair asked the community to anticipate being called for the survey.

2. Board of Education Liaison

Ms. Kintner reported the Board of Education had met on October 1, 2018 at East Farms School. Renee St. Hilaire, Principal and four fourth graders gave a presentation on their co-creating curriculum project. She reported that Farmington did very well on the State standardized Smarter Balance tests and that there were 27 languages other than English spoken as the primary language in 700 student's homes throughout the district. The next Board of Education meeting was scheduled for October 15, 2018 at 7:00 pm in the Farmington High School Library.

3. Chamber of Commerce

Mr. Thomas reported the Chamber had two items on their agenda. The Coder School was having a grand opening on October 13, 2018 from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm and a meet and greet for all the local candidates was scheduled for October 24, 2018.

4. Economic Development Commission Liaison

Mr. Giannaros reported the EDC breakfast had been a success and a Small Business Resource Seminar was scheduled for October 16, 2018 from 8:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. with Jagdish Dalal an expert on management strategies, technology and out sourcing as the speaker.

5. Farmington Historic District Commission

There was no report for Agenda Item J-5.

6. Housing Authority

Ms. Kintner reported the next meeting was October 10, 2018.

7. Human Relations Commission

Ms. Kintner reported the Commission had met on September 26, 2018 at New Horizons Village. The major point of discussion had been the road project scheduled for the corner of New Britain Avenue and Plainville Avenue causing accessibility problems. Matt Walsh, Asst. Town Engineer discussed his work with the State Department of Transportation to limit these problems. The next meeting was scheduled for November 28, 2018 at the Community/Senior Center for 7:00 p.m.

8. Library Board

Mr. Giannaros reported Jay Johnson, Library Director was retiring January 4, 2019. He discussed how Mr. Johnson would be missed and the many innovations he had brought to the libraries.

9. Town Plan and Zoning Liaison

Mr. Charette reported the construction at Five Corners was progressing and fully leased, the former Apricots building reconstruction was in progress and the medical office building at 599 Farmington Avenue was under construction and completely leased.

10. Unionville Historic District Commission

Mr. Giannaros reported the House Tour held on September 30, 2018 had been a success and had featured the Daniel Johnson House 1884, the Frank Sanford House 1884, the George and Edward Thompson House 1884 and the Norman Gridley House 1889. He complimented Lisa Johnson for her excellent tour presentation.

11. Unionville Village Improvement Association Liaison

There was no report for Agenda Item J-11.

12. Water Pollution Control Authority

Mr. Cianci reported the agreement talks with Avon and Burlington were continuing and the construction was on time and on budget.

13. Other Liaisons

Conservation and Inland Wetlands

Ms. Boye-Williams reported the Wood-N-Tap plans for the Apricot site had been approved after some modifications and the Commission has been educating owners about their responsibilities if their property included wetlands.

K. Report of the Town Manager

Quarterly Reports

The Manager asked if there were any questions regarding the reports. There were no questions, but Mr. Thomas thanked the Town Manager and her staff for all the progress that had been made on the goals noting the amount of work that was needed to support all the working committees.

Cemetery Update

The Manager reported on the meeting with the Cemetery Association and after discussion, it was the consensus of the Council to have the Town Manager look into deed restrictions that might be on the Tinty property.

Block the Box

The Manager reported the Traffic Review Board was evaluating the use of a Block the Box ordinance for Farmington intersections to determine if it were the best use of Town resources for traffic issues. The Manager was going to report back to the Council their findings.

SAFER Grant

The Manager reported the Town had received the grant and would be using it to supplement the expense of hiring a ninth full-time firefighter.

Veteran's Day

The Manager reminded the public about the ceremony in front of Town Hall at 11:00 a.m. on November 11, 2018.

West District Neighborhood Meeting

The Manager and the Traffic Review Board had held a successful meeting with the neighborhood. She felt the presence of the Principal from West District School had been important to the success of the meeting.

Overgrowth Ordinance

The Manager reported due to the increase in complaints from residents about these issues, she had been looking into options for the Town. She reported an update to the "Housing Ordinance" was being done and felt an overgrowth section would fit nicely into the "Housing Ordinance". She discussed the pros and cons of these types of ordinances and asked for Council consensus. It was the consensus of the Council to have her look into this and report back to the Council.

Motion was made and seconded (Charette/Giannaros) to accept the report of the Town Manager.

Adopted unanimously

L. Appointments

1. Building Code Board of Appeals (Hammerberg)
2. Conservation and Inland Wetlands Commission Alternate (Markuszk) –
Alternate

There were no appointments made for Agenda Items L-1 or L-2.

3. Conservation and Inland Wetlands Commission

Motion was made and seconded (Charette/Giannaros) that Inez St. James be appointed to the Conservation and Inland Wetlands Commission for the balance of a four-year term beginning immediately and ending September 30, 2020.

Adopted unanimously

4. Economic Development Commission (Russell)
There was no appointment made for Agenda Item L-4.

5. Green Efforts Committee

Motion was made and seconded (Charette/Giannaros) that Stacey Petruzella be appointed to the Green Efforts Committee for an indefinite term beginning immediately.

Adopted unanimously

6. Housing Authority

Motion was made and seconded (Charette/Giannaros) that John DeMeo be appointed to Housing Authority for the balance of a five-year term beginning immediately and ending September 30, 2023.

Adopted unanimously

7. Human Relations Commission

Motion was made and seconded (Charette/Giannaros) that Deidra Ierardi be appointed to the Human Relations Commission for the balance of a two-year term beginning immediately and ending June 30, 2019.

Adopted unanimously

8. Human Relations Commission

Motion was made and seconded (Cianci/Thomas) that Christine Mergenthaler be appointed to the Human Relations Commission for the balance of a two-year term beginning immediately and ending June 30, 2020.

Adopted unanimously

9. Human Relations Commission (Pawlik)

There was no appointment made for Agenda Item L-9.

10. North Central Regional Mental Health Board

Motion was made and seconded (Charette/Giannaros) that Harry Marsh be appointed to the North Central Regional Mental Health Board, Inc. for the balance of a two-year term beginning immediately and ending September 30, 2019.

Adopted unanimously

- 11. Plainville Area Cable TV Advisory Council
- 12. Plainville Area Cable TV Advisory Council (Bernier)
- 13. Plainville Area Cable TV Advisory Council (Markuszk)

There were no appointments made for Agenda Items L-11 through L-13.

14. Retirement Board

Motion was made and seconded (Charette/Giannaros) that Robert Huelin be appointed to the Retirement Board for the balance of a two-year term beginning immediately and ending January, 2020.

Adopted unanimously

15. Tourism Central Regional District

There was no appointment made for Agenda Item L-15.

16. Unionville Historic District & Properties Commission

Motion was made and seconded (Charette/Giannaros) that Lisa Johnson be appointed to the Unionville Historic District & Properties Commission for the balance of a five-year term beginning immediately and ending September 30, 2023.

Adopted Unanimously

- 17. Unionville Historic District & Properties Commission (Martin) – **Alternate**
- 18. Water Pollution Control Authority (Charette)

There were no appointments made for Agenda Items L-17 or L-18.

M. Old Business

There was no Old Business conducted.

N. New Business

- 1. To approve a resolution in support of the Town of Farmington's interest in acquiring the Parson's property from the State of Connecticut and authorizing

the Town Manager to begin the acquisition process with the State of Connecticut (DOT)

Motion was made and seconded (Charette/Giannaros) to approve the following resolution in support of the Town of Farmington's interest in acquiring the Parson's property from the State of Connecticut and authorizing the Town Manager to begin the process with the State of Connecticut (DOT).

Resolution

Whereas, Goal 1 of the Town of Farmington's Strategic Plan established a Farmington Village Center Committee, and,

On July 10, 2018 the Town Council approved the Charge of the Committee which stated that the Committee will develop recommendations to the Town Council regarding the future use of the Parson's property including ownership, control, or use, and,

At the September 17, 2018 Farmington Village Center Committee meeting the Committee recommended, that based on the information available to the Town at this time, ownership of the Parson's property is in the best interest of the Town of Farmington, and,

That this recommendation was based on reviewing the comprehensive work and reports from the Gateway Committee, presentation(s) from Town staff and the consensus of the attendees at a extensively advertised and well attended public meeting on September 4, 2018, and,

That the Town Council begin the process of acquiring the Parson's property from the State of Connecticut subject to a full environmental review, obtaining relief from liability to the State and third parties for pre-existing contamination, e.g., via the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection's Municipal Brownfield Liability Relief Program or other similar programs, and all other due diligence, and,

That in order to begin the process of acquiring the property from the State of Connecticut, the Committee recommends that the Town Manager notify the State of Connecticut (DOT) of Farmington's interest in the property, and ,

That the Town Manager work with the Town's consultant, a Licensed Environmental Professional, to begin the process of an environmental investigation into the property, and,

That the Town staff apply for available assessment funding to conduct environmental investigations of the property under the Department of Economic and Community

Development (DECD) Brownfield Grant Program, in which applications are due October 30, 2018, and,

Lastly, the Farmington Village Center Committee continue to carry out the additional charges assigned to it by the Town Council as stated in the "Charge of the Committee" and report back on to the Town Council a regular basis.

Adopted by the Town Council, of the Town of Farmington, Connecticut this 9th day of October, 2018.

Adopted unanimously.

2. To award a contract for the purchase of twelve (12) APX6000 Model 2.5 Portable Radios to Motorola Solutions, Inc. of Marlboro, MA at a purchase price of \$5,532.87 per radio

Motion was made and seconded (Charette/Giannaros) to award a contract for the purchase of twelve (12) APX6000 Model 2.5 Portable Radios to Motorola Solutions, Inc. of Marlboro, MA at a purchase price of \$5,532.87 per radio.

Adopted unanimously

3. That the following appropriation transfers be made from and to the accounts listed in the FY2017/2018 General Fund Budget

Motion was made and seconded (Charette/Giannaros) that the following appropriation transfers be made from and to the accounts listed below in the FY2017/2018 General Fund Budget.

FROM DEPARTMENT:	AMOUNT
106 PERSONNEL SERVICES	57,000
150 INSURANCE	25,000
540 BENEFITS	11,970
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TOTAL	\$ 93,970
TO DEPARTMENT:	AMOUNT
101 TOWN MANAGER	\$20,050.00
102 FINANCE DEPARTMENT	37,130.00
115 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	

	9,260.00
120 PUBLIC BUILDINGS	3,655.00
215 FIRE DEPARTMENT	12,500.00
245 BUILDING INSPECTION	3,575.00
401 COMMUNITY & RECREATION	5,700.00
420 HOUSING	2,100.00
TOTAL	<u>\$93,970.00</u>

Adopted unanimously

4. To ratify the tentative agreement between the Town of Farmington and Farmington Public Schools Employees United, AFT

Motion was made and seconded (Charette/Giannaros) to approve the motion recorded with these minutes as Agenda Item n-4.

Adopted unanimously

5. To establish an Auditor Ad-Hoc Subcommittee

Motion was made and seconded (Charette/Giannaros) to establish an Auditor Ad-Hoc Subcommittee with the following voting members:

Paul Cianci, Town Council Member, Chair

Patti Boye-Williams, Town Council Member

And the following non-voting members:

Joseph Swetcky, Director of Finance

And:

To review the current policy for appointing auditors to audit the Town's financial records, to review the current contract for auditing services, to determine if a new solicitation for auditing services is appropriate at the present time and to create a timeline and process for soliciting a new auditor.

Adopted unanimously

6. To cancel the October 23, 2018 Town Council Meeting

Motion was made and seconded (Charette/Giannaros) to cancel the October 23, 2018 Town Council Meeting.

Adopted unanimously

7. To approve property tax refunds

Motion was made and seconded (Charette/Giannaros) to approve the following Property tax refunds.

NAME	REASON	AMOUNT
1)Acar Leasing LTD	Assessor's adjustment	\$223.74
2)D. & B. Adams	Assessor's adjustment	\$26.76
3)Jean Bronson	Assessor's adjustment	\$36.70
4)Minxuan Cai	Assessor's adjustment	\$16.53
5) R. & M. Chagnon	Assessor's adjustment	\$118.25
6)Vincent Cunningham	Assessor's adjustment	\$11.06
7)Daimler Trust	Assessor's adjustment	\$266.34
8)Michael Day	Assessor's adjustment	\$16.31
9)Judith Devoe	Overpayment	\$2,367.64
10)Gail Duffy	Assessor's adjustment	\$13.16
11)Financial Ser Veh Trust	Assessor's adjustment	\$577.61
12)David Geuser	Assessor's adjustment	\$107.36
13)E. & S. Giustiniano	Assessor's adjustment	\$15.06
14)Beth Goodfriend	Assessor's adjustment	\$304.36
15)K. Knecht & M. Villiano	Assessor's adjustment	\$10.52
16)K. & M. Knecht	Assessor's adjustment	\$5.44
17)Lawrence Gendler	Assessor's adjustment	\$119.46
18)Honda Lease Trust	Assessor's adjustment	\$1,028.29
19)R. B. Hunter	Assessor's adjustment	\$29.95
20)Teresa Jarmoszko	Assessor's adjustment	\$9.62
21)Ho Joo	Assessor's adjustment	\$58.38
22)JP Morgan Chase Bank	Assessor's adjustment	\$392.60
23)Agnieszka Kukula	Assessor's adjustment	\$10.33
24)Sally Labonte	Assessor's adjustment	\$121.64
25)Henry Leathe 3 rd	Assessor's adjustment	\$45.58
26)Steven Levesque	Assessor's adjustment	\$7.37
27)John Muldoon 2 nd	Assessor's adjustment	\$22.64
28)Gwyn Muscillo	Assessor's adjustment	\$6.22
29)Nissan Infiniti LT	Assessor's adjustment	\$1,466.98
30)Joseph Pikora	Assessor's adjustment	\$5.49
31)J. & E. Rosario	Assessor's adjustment	\$7.93
32)Lakshmi Sarma	Assessor's adjustment	\$77.73
33)M. & J. Scerrato	Assessor's adjustment	\$35.63
34)T. & S. Schneider	Assessor's adjustment	\$20.01
35)Namdev Shelke	Assessor's adjustment	\$110.89

36)Michael Slusarz	Assessor's adjustment	\$38.43
37)Jeffrey Steinberg	Assessor's adjustment	\$18.75
38)Terri Taylor	Assessor's adjustment	\$100.62
39)Toyota Lease Trust	Assessor's adjustment	\$137.37
40)USB Leasing LT	Assessor's adjustment	\$417.68
41)Vault Trust	Assessor's adjustment	\$49.82
42)Madeline Villano	Assessor's adjustment	\$15.68
43)VW Credit Leasing LTD	Assessor's adjustment	\$329.24
44)Robert Wagner	Assessor's adjustment	\$5.52
45)Raymond Ziegler	Overpayment	\$2,596.51
	TOTAL:	\$11,403.20

Adopted unanimously

O. Executive Session


There was no Executive Session held.

P. Adjournment

Motion was made and seconded (Charette/Giannaros) to adjourn the meeting at 9:48 p.m.

Adopted unanimously

Respectfully submitted,



Paula B. Ray, Clerk

Farmington Town Council Meeting

10/9/18

Good evening,

My name is Brian Bell from 6 Nadia's way.

Thank you for the opportunity to speak.

I am here to express my great concern with the potential of having a cemetery in the town owned open space directly next to our neighborhood.

A little over two years ago we moved to Nadia's way. We felt very lucky to find the Nadia's way development adjacent to a beautiful and rare piece of undeveloped open space. We were shocked to learn, just recently, that the open space we envisioned the kids of the neighborhood enjoying was being considered as a potential location for a cemetery expansion.

Prior to purchasing our home 2 years ago, we did what we considered to be our due diligence on the open space. We learned that in 2004 Donald Tinty donated the historical barn and adjacent open space to the town for what has been described in multiple sources "for use as a family park".

In addition, prior to purchasing a house, I reached out via email to town planner William Warner and asked the following:

"Does Farmington Town open space mean there are no plans to ever develop this area? Or, is it possible that the town could use this space for its own purpose? Could the designation of open space ever change in the future?"

The following is a direct response from the Town Planner. (William Warner)

"It was preserved as permanent open space but that does allow the development of sports fields. There are no plans for that now but it is a possibility that you should keep in mind"

Based on this information and the thought that Mr. Tinty reportedly wanted to use this as a family park I felt comfortable proceeding with the purchase of my house, never imagining we may be discussing a cemetery.

Just recently, we obtained a copy of the deed from March 12th 2004 from Donald Tinty to the Town of Farmington. In the interest of time I will summarize the relevant points.

1. It says the Donald Tinty Family Park shall be open to the public and used and maintained by the Town as a park, with improvements and/or facilities to be

determined from time to time and implemented by the town in accordance with the *recreational* needs of the Town. This may include but not be limited to athletic fields, nature trails and river access.

I reviewed the discussion from the September 11th council meeting and when asked if there were any restrictions on the property, town manager Eagen responded that there were no formal restrictions.

I am not an attorney, so I don't know what constitutes a formal vs. informal restriction, but to the average person the deed seems clear that the land was intended for recreational use.

I just can't see how a cemetery, even if surrounded by walking trails, comes close to fitting that vision. I did not know Donald Tinty, and unlike the town manager, I am not privy to the discussions she had with him, but it just seems so hard for me to understand how a cemetery fits into his vision of this land.

The following are my concerns with a cemetery in the Tinty Farms area:

1. The land in question is surrounded directly by residential areas on three of the four sides. Nadia's Way, Main Street, and Old Canal crossing. Putting a cemetery here is literally putting a cemetery in the middle of a bunch of homes.
2. Five of the 6 homes on my street have young children. They play in the culd sac and they play in the field. We see others neighbors from across the field walking their dogs and playing as well. The addition of the cemetery will likely increase traffic and decrease safety in addition to all but eliminating any enjoyment they can get out of this space. The addition of a cemetery will immediately result in changing the entire feel of the neighborhood to a happy and lively place to a constant reminder of things we don't want to be forced to think about on a daily basis.
3. Being a new cemetery, I assume it will be common to have digging and have to listen to the noise associated with that.
4. Also, as a new cemetery, I would expect funeral sessions to be common and dramatically increase the traffic in this area.
5. I have not had the opportunity to look at actual data yet, but I am very concerned with how this will affect our property values. I consulted multiple real estate agents and they said without question, this would decrease the potential buyer pool. There are many reasons why, including personal preference, but also cultural reasons that they backed up with many real life experiences. I personally, would not have bought this house if I knew my daughter would be walking to and from the bus stop while graves are being dug and burials are being performed.

Given that I learned of this only 2 days ago, I have not had the chance to thoroughly review the other four locations that are being considered. Based on initial review there must be a location that will not as dramatically change the feel and safety of a neighborhood as this area does. I also think you should reconsider vacant commercial spaces. At the last meeting it was mentioned that "taking commercial land off the tax rolls" was not ideal. I get that. It makes sense. But at what cost?

Respectfully, I understand that you have the difficult task of finding a cemetery location. I please hope you all try to put your families in our shoes and imagine looking out your own front doors to a cemetery when you never thought that was a possibility. For the sake of our kids and our neighborhood I please hope you will consider the effect this will have and consider other options.

Thank You,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Brian Bell', written over the 'Thank You,' text.

Brian Bell
6 Nadia's Way



This photo illustrates the line of sight of the sidewalk being 100% blocked by the shrubs planted along the road.

This prevents drivers from seeing pedestrians, including children, on sidewalk.

This greatly reduces reaction time for a driver, should a pedestrian step into the roadway.



From a large vehicle, the line of sight of oncoming traffic and the sidewalk is blocked by the shrubs planted along the road at 8 Hunters Ridge.



View of road is blocked.



This photo illustrates the current maintenance program by the Town of Farmington, up to the property line for 8 Hunters Ridge.

Note: grass is low, there is a clear view of sidewalk.

MOTION:

Agenda Item N-4

To ratify the attached tentative agreement between the Town of Farmington and Farmington Public Schools Employees United, AFT.

/Attachment

TENTATIVE AGREEMENT

The Town of Farmington (the Town) and the Farmington Public Schools Employees United, AFT (the Union), having met and negotiated the issue of pension only in accordance with Article 19 of the collective bargaining agreement in effect between the Union and the Farmington Board of Education, hereby agree to the following terms in full and final resolution of all issues in dispute between them:

The existing Town of Farmington Employee Pension Plan, Part 2, Non-Police Employees as amended shall remain in full force and effect for all eligible bargaining unit employees hired prior to July 1, 2019.

For employees hired on or after July 1, 2019, the Town will provide a Defined Contribution Plan for retirement purposes in lieu of participation in the pension. Employees are required to contribute a minimum of six percent (6%) of the employee's annual base salary and may contribute up to the maximum allowed by law. The Town will match the employee's contributions at 100% to a maximum amount equal to six percent (6%) of the employee's annual base salary. Employees must be employed at least five years before they "vest" in the Defined Contribution Plan, i.e. are entitled to the Town's contributions in the event employment is terminated.

The Pension Plan will remain open for any bargaining unit employee hired before July 1, 2019 who thereafter becomes eligible to participate in the Pension Plan due to an increase in work hours.

This Agreement will remain in effect for the duration of the contract term, whatever that contract term may be as the result of current successor contract negotiations between the Union and the Board of Education. If neither party submits a timely demand to bargain (i.e. no earlier than 180 days before contract expiration and no later than the expiration date of the successor agreement) at the end of the next contract term as required by the Municipal Employee Relations Act (MERA), it is understood and agreed that the defined benefit plan (ie pension) and the defined contribution plan (i.e. 457 plan) will continue in effect through the end of the next successor contract term, whatever that may be as a result of successor contract negotiations, as outlined in this agreement.

This Agreement is subject to ratification by both the Union and the Town.

Town of Farmington:

Farmington Public Schools Employees United, AFT:





By:

By:

Date: 9-14-18

Date: 9-6-2018