

**Town of Farmington, CT
Office of the Town Manager
Regular Town Council Meeting**

****PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS MEETING WILL BE ONLINE****

To access the meeting:

Please click the link below to join the webinar:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84000374472>

Telephone Call in Information:

Dial: +1 312 626 6799

Webinar ID: 840 0037 4472

Date: December 8, 2020
(Council Members should call the Town Manager's Office if unable to attend.)

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Place: Online – Web Conference

Agenda

- A. Call to Order
- B. Pledge of Allegiance
- C. Presentations and Recognitions
 - 1. Firefighters of the Year – John Driscoll
 - 2. Proclamation - Human Rights Day
 - 3. Proclamation - Ruth Grobe
- D. Public Hearing
- E. New Items
- F. Public Comments
- G. Reading of the Minutes
 - 1. November 10, 2020 Regular Town Council Meeting

H. Reading of Communications and Written Appeals

1. Correspondence from C.J. Thomas, Town Council Chair to Residents

I. Report of the Committees

1. UCONN Health Committee
2. Land Acquisition Committee
3. Green Efforts Committee
4. Farmington High School Building Committee
5. Racial Equality Taskforce
6. Village Center/Parson's Property Ad-Hoc Committee

J. Report of the Council Chair and Liaisons

1. Chair
2. Board of Education Liaison
3. Economic Development Commission Liaison
4. Farmington Historic District Commission
5. Housing Authority
6. Human Relations Commission
7. Library Board
8. Town Plan and Zoning Liaison
9. Unionville Historic District Commission
10. Unionville Village Improvement Association Liaison
11. Water Pollution Control Authority
12. Other Liaisons

K. Report of the Town Manager

- a. Personnel Update

L. Appointments

1. Building Code Board of Appeals (Langston)
2. Plainville Area Cable TV Advisory Council (Bernier)
3. Unionville Historic District & Properties Commission **Alternate** (Wuelfing)
4. Metropolitan District Commission (Solomonides)

M. Old Business

N. New Business

1. To authorize the Town Manager to sign a contract with Stryker for the purchase of three (3) LUCAS devices, one (1) for each main fire station, for a multi-year commitment of five (5) years.
2. To adopt the attached resolution authorizing the Town Manager to execute an application for State financial assistance with the State of Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development for the Small Town Economic Assistance Program (STEAP) grant.

3. To approve property tax refunds.

O. Executive Session
None.

P. Adjournment



November 23, 2020

Dear Farmington Residents,

On behalf of the Employees and Town Council of Farmington, we would like to wish you all a happy and safe Thanksgiving. As with so much in 2020, what "happy and safe" looks like will be a bit different from past years.

Connecticut is experiencing an increase in COVID-19 cases and Farmington is no exception. For the reporting period ending 11/14/2020, Farmington experienced a case rate of 17.6 per 100,000 population, resulting in a "red alert" designation. We are confident that everyone will do their part to keep our community safe and healthy.

Large gatherings with family and friends can increase the chances of getting or spreading COVID-19, or the flu. The safest way to celebrate Thanksgiving this year is to stay home with people in your household, celebrate outdoors, or celebrate virtually. If you do plan to spend Thanksgiving with people outside your household, we've created a [Thanksgiving Guide](#), with tips from the Connecticut Department of Public Health and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), to make your Thanksgiving holiday safer.

Residents should also keep in mind the following:

- Remember the 3W's: **W**ear a mask, **W**atch your distance (6 feet), **W**ash your hands;
- Stay home when you have symptoms of illness and seek testing. The symptoms of COVID-19 can look like many other illnesses, so it is important to get tested;
- Isolate when you have been quarantined due to close contact.

Testing is available in many locations throughout Connecticut. Those experiencing symptoms should contact their primary care provider. Anyone who does not have a primary care provider should call 2-1-1 or visit the [CT Testing Locator](#) to locate the nearest testing site. **Free drive-thru testing is available every Thursday from 11am-3pm at Tunxis Community College.**

Let's continue to work together to limit the spread of COVID-19 in our community.

Thank you and be well,

C.J. Thomas
Town Council Chair

Kathleen A. Blonski
Town Manager



PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, John Driscoll has served the Town of Farmington as a volunteer fire fighter for over 5 years at the Tunxis Hose Fire Company No.1 joining on November 18, 2015, and

WHEREAS, John Driscoll, during his 5 years with Tunxis Hose Fire Company No.1 has already accomplished many training certifications to include Firefighter 1, Firefighter 2, Fire Instructor 1, Emergency Medical Technician Certification and Operational Level Hazardous Materials, and

WHEREAS, John Driscoll follows in his father's footsteps as a 2nd generation fire fighter continuing a legacy of dedication and commitment to the Town of Farmington and Town of Farmington Fire Department, and

WHEREAS, John Driscoll has achieved many notable recognitions to include top responder for 2019 where he responded to 571 calls for service which encompassed both fire and medical emergencies, and

WHEREAS, John Driscoll has made significant and lasting contributions in multiple ways that have fostered the well-being of the citizens of the Town of Farmington, mostly recently being instrumental in the COVID-19 pandemic response by supporting community events to include drive by "Birthday Parades" to help lift the community spirit, and

WHEREAS, John Driscoll has maintained a focus on the public good and acted to protect the public interest while donating countless hours of time, energy and personal commitment to better our community and enrich the lives of the residents of the Town of Farmington.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Farmington Town Council hereby commends John Driscoll for his excellent work on behalf of the community and we congratulate him on his 2020 Firefighter of the Year Award. The Farmington Town Council hereby proclaims December 8, 2020 as John Driscoll Day in Farmington, Connecticut.

DATED AT FARMINGTON, CONNECTICUT this 8th day of December 2020.

C.J. Thomas, Chair
Farmington Town Council

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS , December 10, 1948 is the date that the General Assembly of the United Nations approved the Universal Declaration of Human Rights declaring that “recognition of the inherent dignity and of the equal and inalienable rights of all members of the human family is the foundation of freedom, justice and peace in the world;” and

WHEREAS, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights calls for all people and governments at all levels to promote and respect the rights that it recognizes remembering that all human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Farmington and the Farmington Human Relations Commission are committed to ensuring the human rights of all Farmington residents, protecting them from discrimination, and encourages equality of treatment of all people, regardless of race, color, sex, religion, sexual orientation, marital status, age, economic status, national origin or ancestry, political opinion or physical, mental, intellectual or learning disability ; and

WHEREAS , 2020 is the 72nd anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and an opportunity for the Town of Farmington to commemorate this event and recommit itself to the broader achievement of human rights for all residents .

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED that on behalf of the Town Council and the residents of Farmington, I, Town Council Chair C.J. Thomas, proclaim December 10, 2020 as Human Rights Day in the Town of Farmington and encourage all residents to work together in the coming year to advancing progress towards fulfilling the full range of human rights contained in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

DATED AT FARMINGTON, CONNECTICUT this 8th day of December 2020.

C.J. Thomas
Chair, Farmington Town Council

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Ruth Grobe is a longtime Farmington resident who has dedicated herself to the betterment of her community through decades of advocating for social equality and justice, and

WHEREAS, Ruth Grobe received a Bachelor of Arts from Harvard University and a Master of Social Work from the University of Connecticut and uses her education and expertise to work tirelessly for the needs of all of Farmington's residents, and

WHEREAS, Ruth Grobe has worked for the Greater Hartford YMCA for over a decade and was the 2012 recipient of the Robert C. Knox, Jr. YMCA Distinguished Leadership Award for her dedication to helping the YMCA grow and prosper, and

WHEREAS, Ruth Grobe's civic engagement includes volunteering and supporting Town organizations such as New Horizons, the Community Chest, the United Way, and the Human Relations Commission, where she was the Chair for over twenty years, and

WHEREAS, Ruth Grobe established a unity network which provides information, education, and support to all of Farmington's diverse populations, and

WHEREAS, Ruth Grobe assisted in establishing the Citizens Coalition for Equal Access that advocates for Universal Design, and was instrumental in the installation of automatic entry doors at the Unionville Post Office to aid all residents that are either confined to a wheelchair or need help with heavier doors in having access to the Unionville Post Office, and

WHEREAS, in addition to the outstanding work she does in Farmington, Ruth is also committed to ServCorps, a volunteer service founded by her husband Richard, that focuses on the construction and restoration of homes in Connecticut and areas suffering from natural disasters.

NOW THEREFORE, the Farmington Town Council hereby commends Ruth Grobe for her tremendous work on behalf of the community and we hereby thank her for her selfless dedication and immeasurable contributions and commitment to the Town of Farmington and its residents. The Farmington Town Council hereby extends Ruth Grobe best wishes on her future endeavors.

DATED AT FARMINGTON, CONNECTICUT this 8th day of December 2020.

C.J. Thomas, Chair
Farmington Town Council

MOTION:

Agenda Item K

Report of the Town Manager

a. Personnel Update

a. Personnel Update

The Town's Highway & Grounds Superintendent, Scott Zenke recently retired after sixteen years of service to the Town. I'm happy to announce that our Highway Foreman Jim Ruzbasan has been promoted to Highway and Grounds Superintendent.

Jim has been with the town for 26 years, starting as an Operator I at the Water Pollution Control Facility. Jim worked at the treatment plant as an Operator II and Collection System Supervisor, before becoming the Highway Foreman in 2016. Prior to the Town of Farmington, Jim worked as a truck driver/laborer and later a heavy equipment operator/crew foreman for various construction companies. Jim's technical skills and experience are an asset to the Highway and Grounds Division and the Town as a whole.

MOTION:

Agenda Item L-1

That _____ be appointed to the Building Code Board of Appeals for the balance of a five-year term beginning immediately and ending September 30, 2024. (Langston)

MOTION:

Agenda Item L-2

That _____ be appointed to the Plainville Area Cable TV Advisory Council for the balance of a two-year term beginning immediately and ending June 30, 2022. (Bernier)

MOTION:

Agenda Item L-3

That _____ be appointed to the Unionville Historic District & Properties Commission as an alternate for a balance of a three-year term beginning immediately and ending September 30, 2023. (Wuelfing)

MOTION:

Agenda Item L-4

That _____ be appointed to the Metropolitan District Commission for a six-year term beginning January 1, 2021 and ending January 1, 2027. (Solomonides)

MOTION:

Agenda Item N-1

To authorize the Town Manager to sign a contract with Stryker for the purchase of three (3) LUCAS devices, one (1) for each main fire station, for a multi-year commitment of five (5) years.

NOTE: The LUCAS device extends the reach of care by ensuring improved quality CPR during a cardiac arrest event. It can improve provider safety, avoiding fatigue over long durations and reducing transport risks by allowing caregivers to sit belted. It can also increase the efficiency of medical teams, calming the scene and providing an extra pair of hands so focus can be on the patient and underlying conditions. The LUCAS device provides consistent and high-quality chest compressions shown by research to increase the chances of good patient outcomes. The LUCAS device has demonstrated to increase blood flow to the brain and achieve higher O2 values compared to manual compressions.

The cost would be \$6,000 per year for four (4) years out of the operating budget. In year five (5), a final payment of \$36,443 from the capital plan would be made for a total cost of \$60,443. This covers all of the the LUCAS devices, accessories and a four (4) year maintenance/ warranty plan.

MOTION:

Agenda Item N-2

To adopt the attached resolution authorizing the Town Manager to execute an application for State financial assistance with the State of Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development for the Small Town Economic Assistance Program (STEAP) grant.

NOTE: The Town of Farmington was awarded \$128,205.00 in grant funds from the State of Connecticut Department of Community and Economic Development for the 2020 Small Town Economic Assistance Program (STEAP) for the construction of a Municipal Campus Outdoor Meeting Pavilion.

/Attachment

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
 STATE OF CONNECTICUT
 (AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER)
CERTIFIED RESOLUTION OF THE GOVERNING BODY

I, Paula B. Ray , Town Clerk , certify that below is a true and correct copy of a
 (Name of Official) (Title of Official)

resolution duly adopted by the Town of Farmington
 (Name of the Applicant)

at a meeting of its Town Council
 (Governing Body)

duly convened on December 8, 2020 and which has not been rescinded or modified in
 (Meeting Date)

any way whatsoever and is at present in full force and effect.

 (Date)

 (Signature and Title of Official)

SEAL

WHEREAS, pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes Section 4-66g ,
 (State Statutory Reference)

the Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development is authorized to extend financial assistance for economic development projects; and **WHEREAS**, it is desirable and in the public interest that the Town of Farmington make an application to the State for

\$ 128,205 in order to undertake the Municipal Campus Outdoor Meeting Pavilion
 (Applicant) (Name and Phase of Project)

_____ and to execute an Assistance Agreement.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE

Town Council
 (Governing Body)

1. That it is cognizant of the conditions and prerequisites for the state financial assistance imposed by
Connecticut General Statutes Section 4-66g
 (State Statutory Reference)

2. That the filing of an application for State financial assistance by
The Town of Farmington
 (Applicant)
 in an amount not to exceed \$ 128,205 is hereby approved and that

Kathleen A. Blonski, Town Manager

(Title and Name of Authorized Official)

is directed to execute and file such application with the Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development, to provide such additional information, to execute such other documents as may be required, to execute an Assistance Agreement with the State of Connecticut for State financial assistance if such an agreement is offered, to execute any amendments, decisions, and revisions thereto, and to act as the authorized representative of

the Town of Farmington

(Name of Applicant)

MOTION:

Agenda Item N-3

To approve the following property tax refunds.

NAME	REASON	AMOUNT
ARI Fleet Lt. LTD	Assessor adjustment	\$2,486.53
Bhatt Sujay	Assessor adjustment	\$117.37
Debari Brien J	Assessor adjustment	\$7.41
Enterprise FM Trust	Assessor adjustment	\$1,662.16
Freeman Silvia & Anthony	Assessor adjustment	\$85.14
Honda Lease Trust	Assessor adjustment	\$480.95
JP Morgan Chase Bank	Assessor adjustment	\$484.30
Kal Farmington LTD	Assessor adjustment	\$14,424.61
Kumar Sunil	Assessor adjustment	\$247.25
Lease and Rental MGMT	Assessor adjustment	\$474.29
Lynch Bonita J	Assessor adjustment	\$151.98
MCM Communications LLC	Assessor adjustment	\$316.34
MCM Holdings LLC	Assessor adjustment	\$296.20
Nasiakos Nicholas & George	Assessor adjustment	\$37.79
RRReview	Assessor adjustment	\$24.87
Saade Abdallah	Assessor adjustment	\$34.65
Sookram Dularie	Assessor adjustment	\$158.03
State of Connecticut	Assessor adjustment	\$1,963.18
Toyota Lease Trust	Assessor adjustment	\$578.98
USB Leasing	Assessor adjustment	\$332.61
Weeks Dianna	Assessor adjustment	\$30.90
Wilkie Donna G	Assessor adjustment	\$66.96
Total	Assessor adjustment	\$24,462.50