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Minutes of the Town of Farmington
Regular Town Council Meeting
November 10, 2015

Present:

Nancy W. Nickerson, Chair
Jeffery P. Apuzzo
Jon Landry
Peter M. Mastrobattista
Amy Suffredini
Meredith A. Trimble
Jon Vibert

Kathleen Eagen, Town Manager
Paula B. Ray, Clerk

A. Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

B. Pledge of Allegiance

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

C. Presentations and Recognitions.

1. Proclamation – Veterans Day

Mr. Landry read the following proclamation into the record.

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the citizens of our country are justly proud of the men and women who have fought to defend the principles of liberty and freedom on which our nation was founded, and

WHEREAS, from the Revolutionary-era militias through today's sophisticated defense structure, American service members have defended our country in times of challenge, brought honor to the United States and created a solid foundation for its continued security, growth and prosperity, and

WHEREAS, despite the tremendous perils and pressures of wartime, our Armed Forces have defended the country with conviction and courage. In admiration of the strength of our convictions, other nations have looked to America for leadership, and our allies have always been secure in the knowledge that our proud country will not allow its principles and beliefs to be compromised, and

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WHEREAS, the citizens of the United States will forever owe an immense debt of gratitude to our Veterans for the sacrifices they have made to secure the safety of our country, and

WHEREAS, as an expression of that gratitude, President Dwight D. Eisenhower signed into law an act calling for the observance of Veterans Day on November 11th of each year, and in 1921 that date was originally designated as Armistice Day in remembrance of the end of World War I and as a perpetual reminder of the blessings of peace, and by 1954, the observance widened to honor the courageous Veterans of all foreign conflicts, and

WHEREAS, our Veterans reflect the preeminent qualities of patriotism and courage in all of us and continue to make countless contributions to military and civilian life. In addition, many men and women from the Connecticut National Guard are serving in Iraq or Afghanistan, or are scheduled to be deployed there shortly, along with many other Connecticut residents serving with the United States Army, Air Force, Navy, Marines and Coast Guard.

Now, therefore, be it resolved, that the Farmington Town Council hereby thanks the many contributions and accomplishments of all our Veterans.

DATED AT FARMINGTON, CONNECTICUT this 10th day of November 2015.

Nancy Nickerson, Chair
Farmington Town Council

2. Proclamation – Services for the Elderly

The Chair read the following proclamation into the record.

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the Services for the Elderly is a nonprofit agency that is dedicated to Farmington's older citizens by helping them remain at home, and;

WHEREAS, the Services for the Elderly offers programs such as Meals-on-Wheels, Friendly Visitors and Shoppers, transportation to medical appointments, and by loaning donated, used medical equipment to those in need, and;

WHEREAS, the Services for the Elderly is a network of many volunteers guided by Nancy Walker, Executive Director, and;

WHEREAS, the Town's social services are enhanced by the additional services offered through Services for the Elderly, and;

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WHEREAS, the Services for the Elderly is celebrating its 50th Anniversary of providing instrumental activities of daily living for our residents in need.

NOW, THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED, that the Town of Farmington is very appreciative of the additional direct services provided to the elderly population and thanks all their volunteers for taking the time to help those in need. The Town of Farmington congratulates and offers its sincerest thanks to the Services for the Elderly for its positive impact on the local community in the Town of Farmington.

DATED AT FARMINGTON, CONNECTICUT this 10th day of November 2015.

Nancy Nickerson, Chair
Farmington Town Council

D. Public Hearing

There were no public hearings held.

E. New Items

There were no new items added to the Agenda.

F. Public Comment

There were no public comments made.

G. Reading of Minutes.

1. October 13, 2015 Regular Town Council Meeting

Motion was made and seconded (Apuzzo/Landry) to approve the minutes of the October 13, 2015 Regular Town Council Meeting.

Adopted unanimously.

H. Reading of Communications and Written Appeals

There were no communications or written appeals to the Council.

I. Report of Committees

1. UCONN Committee(s)

The Chair reported that at the last meeting the UConn Health Center representatives reported the building projects were on schedule and going well.

2. Land Acquisition Committee

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There was no report for Agenda Item I-2.

3. Green Efforts Committee

Mr. Vibert reported the committee was making their plans for 2016. He expected the Farmington Cleanup Day would be one of the activities as well as some new programs. He told the Council the Committee was working with Eversource to benchmark the Town of Farmington's progress on their pledge to lower its energy use by 20% by 2018, which the Town had pledged in 2013.

4. Joint Town of Farmington/City of Hartford Committee

The Manager reported that the Committee had been slightly stalled due to the change in administration in Hartford, but she expected in 2016 things should get back on track.

5. Bicycle Advisory Committee

Mr. Vibert reported the Committee had been working with the Traffic Advisory Committee to identify roads to be signed or painted with sharrows to educate the public and bicyclists, which roads were best for bicycle traffic.

6. Farmington Gateway Committee

Mr. Apuzzo reported the Committee had met on November 5, 2016, approved the final report from the consultant and voted to present that report to the Council in December. Mrs. Suffredini reported the entire experience had been positive and that after the presentation to the Council the next phases of the project would be ready to move forward.

7. Web Page Sub-Committee

Mr. Landry reported the Committee was in the final design phase. Erica Robertson, Assistant Town Manager and Brian Rush, Information Technology Manager had met with all the Department Heads about their individual sections of the website. He expected to have a meeting soon to go over next steps for the project.

J. Report of the Council Chair and Liaisons

1. Chair Report

The Chair reported there had been a very successful ground breaking ceremony for the Burn Building project. She explained the project was an excellent example of inter-town cooperation. She praised everyone in Farmington and Avon for their contributions to the project.

2. Board of Education Liaison Report

Mr. Landry reported the Board of Education had held a Special Meeting on November 4, 2015 regarding the Charles House Project and developed their own list of requests they would like granted by the Developer, which they were presenting to the Town Plan and Zoning Commission.

3. Unionville Village Improvement Association Liaison Report

Mrs. Trimble reported the planning for the Jingle Bell Jubilee was underway.

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4. Town Plan and Zoning Liaison Report

The Chair reported the renovations for a new restaurant and bar at McGillicuddy's were moving along. She told the Council the Charles House project had been approved unanimously, but that there were some concerns about the ability to hold the Tunxis Hose Carnival with the changes in the area. The Chair said the Council would work with the Board of Education and the Developer to make sure the Carnival could continue and to make sure the entire process was positive for the Town.

5. Water Pollution Control Authority Report

Mrs. Trimble reported the WPCA had met the previous evening on the facilities upgrade project.

6. Economic Development Commission Liaison Report

There was no report for Agenda Item I-6.

7. Human Relations Commission Report

Mrs. Suffredini reported the Commission had held their annual meeting at New Horizons in Unionville. She told the Council Matt Blume, Town of Farmington Civil Engineer had attended and reviewed the upcoming sidewalk project for the residents. She reminded residents with snow season approaching to make sure they are cleared the sidewalks of snow to accommodate wheelchair transportation.

8. Chamber of Commerce Report

Mr. Landry reported the Chamber was holding their 3rd Annual Business Summit on November 18th at the Farmington Marriott and the next Business After Hours Meeting was being held at LaBelle Chateau on November 12, 2015.

9. Other Liaison Reports

There were no other Liaison Reports.

K. Report of Town Manager

Quarterly Reports

The Town Manager called the Council's attention to the quarterly reports. She reviewed Attachment 2 – State Road Projects for the Council. She commended the Engineering Department to move the projects forward. Mr. Vibert asked that since the State of Connecticut was allowing a crosswalk across Rte.177 at the bike path, to try and move this portion of the project forward as soon as possible. Mr. Russell Arnold, Director of Public Works and Planning Services explained he would look into having the cross walk installed earlier but that was a difficult request. Mr. Arnold gave a brief review of the Town of Farmington Sidewalk Code, the Rails to Trails Project into Plainville and reported the Town of Farmington work on the Rte. 4 Farmington Center project was completed the State portion of the project would be starting next year and take two years to complete.

Jingle Bell Jubilee

It was the consensus of the Council to provide the in-kind services requested.

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Veterans Day

The Manager reported there would be a short ceremony at the Town Hall Memorial at 11:00 a.m.

Town Council Reception

The Manger reported there would be a reception for leaving Council member Jeff Apuzzo on December 8th at 6:30 p.m. prior to the regular meeting.

Update on Tennessee Gas Pipeline Project

The Manager called the Council's attention to the report and Mr., Arnold answered Council questions.

Water Pollution Control Facility Upgrade

The Manager reported the bid opening had taken place on October 8, 2015 and that C. H. Nickerson & Company Inc. had been the low bidder and their references had been checked and found satisfactory. The WPCA had approved the bid and the additional costs at their November 4, 2015 meeting. They were moving the bid forward to the State of Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection for approval. The Manager was confident any shortfall in funding would be made up by reviewing the bid and from grant funding. The Manager hoped to have the documents for Council approval at the December meeting.

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

Adopted unanimously.

L. Appointments

1. Plainville Area Cable TV Advisory Council (Erickson) (R)
2. Plainville Area Cable TV Advisory Council (Landry)(R)
3. North Central Regional Mental Health Board, Inc. (Wienke)(R)
4. Farmington Valley Health District (Jones)(D)
5. Housing Authority (Cowdry)(R)
6. Building Code Board of Appeals (Schadler) (R)
7. Water Pollution Control Authority (McGrane) (U)
8. Tourism Central Region District (Bremkamp)
9. Green Efforts Committee (Grouten) (R)
10. Human Relations Commission (Elling) (D)
11. Plainville Area Cable TV Advisory Council (Montes) (R)
12. Unionville Historic District and Properties Commission **Alternate**
(Hoffman) (R)
13. Economic Development Commission (Valenti) (R)

There were no appointments made.

M. Old Business.

There was no old business conducted.

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N. New Business

1. To authorize the acquisition of Lot 10A Slater Road (adjacent to Deadwood Swamp).

Motion was made and seconded (Apuzzo/Landry) to authorize the acquisition of property owned by Joanne Perloff and the Estate of Casmir Bycoski located at Lot 10A Slater Road (adjacent to Deadwood Swamp), (approximately 2.60 acres) for No Consideration in exchange for taxes due (estimated to be \$17,520.68 as of December 2015) subject to due diligence, including but not limited to a Title Search.

Adopted unanimously.

2. To authorize the acceptance of a gift of property owned by Tomasso Brothers, Inc. located at Lot 3 Johnson Avenue.

Motion was made and seconded (Apuzzo/Landry) to authorize the acceptance of a gift of property owned by Tomasso Brothers, Inc. located at Lot 3 Johnson Avenue.

Adopted unanimously.

3. To authorize the Town Manager to execute a "Memorandum of Understanding" between the Town of Farmington and the Town of Plainville for construction and maintenance of a multi-use trail.

Motion was made and seconded (Apuzzo/Landry) to authorize the Town Manager to execute a "Memorandum of Understanding" between the Town of Farmington and the Town of Plainville for construction and maintenance of a portion of the Farmington Canal Heritage Greenway multi-use trail being built within Plainville's municipal boundary.

Adopted unanimously.

4. To authorize the Town Manager to sign the Agreement for Consulting Engineering Services for State Project #51-269 Intersection Improvements.

Motion was made and seconded (Apuzzo/Landry) to authorize the Town Manager to sign the Agreement for Consulting Engineering Services for the development of contract plans, specifications, and estimates for State Project #51-269 Intersection Improvements along South Main Street from New Britain Avenue to Farmington Avenue.

Adopted unanimously.

5. To approve Property Tax Refunds.

Motion was made and seconded (Apuzzo/Landry) to approve the following Property Tax Refunds:

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NAME	REASON	AMOUNT
1) Ari Fleet LT	Excess payment	\$305.71
2) John Bergstrom	Excess payment	\$176.26
3) J& P Brenner	Excess payment	\$181.41
4) Kathryn Cartnick	Excess payment	\$16.34
5) Denise Davella	Excess payment	\$247.14
6) M Demicco or B Bergeron	Excess payment	\$14.09
7) Financial Ser Veh Trust	Excess payment	\$285.36
8) Honda Lease Trust	Excess payment	\$357.17
9) John Jakobeit	Excess payment	\$326.53
10) JP Morgan Chase	Excess payment	\$238.08
11) R or V Lindboe	Excess payment	\$177.11
12) Della or David Logan	Excess payment	\$14.76
13) M & S Michigami	Excess payment	\$36.42
14) Motorlease Corp.	Excess payment	\$54.57
15) Nissan Infinti LT	Excess payment	\$394.71
16) Porsche Leasing LTD	Excess payment	\$771.07
17) Steven Singer	Excess payment	\$54.07
18) Tomasz Slysz	Excess payment	\$77.88
19) Richard Strauss	Excess payment	\$130.47
20) Wenhui Sun	Excess payment	\$292.40
21) Toyota Lease Trust	Excess payment	\$148.77
22) Toyota Motor Credit	Excess payment	\$590.17
23) M. Tsakiris	Excess payment	\$6.75
24) Vault Trust	Excess payment	\$237.36
25) Trevor Vigneault	Excess payment	\$72.67
26) Elizabeth Walczok	Excess payment	\$125.25
	TOTAL:	\$5,332.52

Adopted unanimously.

O. Executive Session

Motion was made and seconded (Apuzzo/Landry) to move to Executive Session at 7:52 p.m. with the Town Council and Town Manager present for discussion of the selection of a site or lease, sale or purchase of real estate.

Adopted unanimously.

The Council returned to Open Session at 8:20 p.m.

P. Adjournment

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Motion was made and seconded (Apuzzo/Landry) to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 p.m.

Adopted unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Paula B. Ray, Clerk