

Minutes of the Town of Farmington  
Regular Town Council Meeting  
June 14, 2016

**Present:**

Nancy W. Nickerson, Chair  
Jon Landry  
Peter M. Mastrobattista  
Gary Palumbo  
Amy Suffredini  
Meredith A. Trimble  
John Vibert

Kathy Eagen, Town Manager  
Paula B. Ray, Clerk

**A. Call to Order**

The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m.

**B. Pledge of Allegiance**

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

**C. Proclamations and Recognitions**

1. Doug Pelham – Scoutmaster

The proclamation was postponed until the second meeting in September.

**D. Public Hearing**

There was no public hearing.

**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. April 11, 2016 Special Town Council Meeting**

Motion was made and seconded (Trimble/Mastrobattista) to approve the minutes of the April 11, 2016 Special Town Council Meeting.

Adopted unanimously.

### **2. May 10, 2016 Regular Town Council Meeting**

Motion was made and seconded (Trimble/Mastrobattista) to approve the minutes of the May 10, 2016 Regular Town Council Meeting.

Adopted unanimously.

## **H. Reading of Communications and Written Appeals**

The Manager called the Council's attention to the letters left at their places regarding the reconstruction of South Main Street at New Britain Avenue and the projected MDC customer surcharge increase recorded with these minutes as Agenda Items H-1 and H-2.

## **I. Report of Committees**

### **1. UCONN Committee(s)**

### **2. Land Acquisition Committee**

There were no reports for Agenda Items I-1 and I-2.

### **3. Green Efforts Committee**

Mr. Vibert reported the compost bin sale had been completed. Eighty bins and other items related to composting had been sold.

### **4. Joint Town of Farmington/City of Hartford Committee**

There was no report for Agenda Item I-4.

### **5. Bicycle Advisory Committee**

Mr. Vibert reported signage indicating that Farmington is a bicycle friendly town has been installed at all the entry ways into Farmington. The Committee will continue to work with the Town of Farmington Traffic Committee to install signage on the roads that are safe for bicycles to steer bicyclists to these roads.

### **6. Farmington Gateway Committee**

Mr. Mastrobattista reported the Town Manager had signed an agreement with the BL Companies to do the phase II, the market study and traffic analysis for the Farmington Gateway area. The walk through of the property with the BL Companies is scheduled for June 30<sup>th</sup> at noon. The Manager reported that Preservation Now was hosting a presentation on the proposed development for the 1 Waterville Road Property on Thursday June 16<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. at the Stanley Whitman House.

#### 7. Web Page Sub-Committee

Mr. Landry reported that he had been receiving very positive feedback on the new website design. He expected the Committee would have a meeting in September to review the design.

#### 8. Farmington High School Renovation Committee

Mrs. Trimble reported that four architectural firms had been selected to be interviewed for the project. The interviews were being done on June 15<sup>th</sup> and June 22<sup>nd</sup>.

### J. Report of the Council Chair and Liaisons

#### 1. Chair Report – Set a date for a Public Official Training Workshop

The Chair reported the Town Manager was signing up the Council for a tour of the Mormon Temple. She asked the Council to see her to be scheduled. She told the Council a joint meeting with the TPZ and BOE was being scheduled for the fall. Procedural topics such as FOI and Executive Session would be the topic of the meeting. She reported having attended a CROCOG Regional meeting at which the subject of Batterson Park was discussed, and she expected that project would be considered again.

#### 2. Board of Education Liaison Report

Mr. Landry reported that Irving A Robbins Middle School 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Promotion was scheduled for June 17<sup>th</sup> and Farmington High School Graduation was scheduled for June 20<sup>th</sup>.

#### 3. Unionville Village Improvement Association Liaison Report

Mrs. Trimble reported The Unionville Festival was being planned for September 25<sup>th</sup> and the summer movies were scheduled for July 15<sup>th</sup> Kung Foo Panda 3, July 29<sup>th</sup> The Princess Bride and August 12<sup>th</sup> the Peanuts Movie. Movie admission was free and free popcorn was being provided.

#### 4. Town Plan and Zoning Liaison Report

Mr. Mastrobattista reported a new turf field had been approved for FSA, Metro Realty was beginning to build a new office building on Birdseye Road, Metro Realty applied to build another medical building on Farmington Avenue and Winding Trails had a new boathouse approved.

#### 5. Water Pollution Control Authority Report

Mrs. Trimble reported the renovation project was progressing well with no problems.

#### 6. Economic Development Commission Liaison Report

Mr. Palumbo reported planning was underway for the next business breakfast.

#### 7. Human Relations Commission Report

#### 8. Chamber of Commerce Report

#### 9. Other Liaison Reports

There were no reports for Agenda Items J-7 or J-8 or other liaison reports.

## **K. Report of the Town Manager**

### Revolutionary War Encampment

The Manager reported the Farmington Historical Society was planning a Revolutionary War Encampment to celebrate the 240<sup>th</sup> anniversary of The 2<sup>nd</sup> Continental Light Dragoon's Sheldon's Horse being commissioned by General George Washington. The event was taking place on July 16 & 17 at the Farmington Polo Grounds. They were requesting in-kind services from the Town for two police officers for seven (7) hours each day from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., and a Fire Watch for Saturday night which consists of two volunteer firefighters for approximately four (4) hours. It was the consensus of the Council to grant the in-kind services.

### State Budget Update

The Manager reported the Governor exercised his line-item veto authority by cutting \$20.0 million from municipal aid from the 2016/2017 State Budget. The reduction was to the "Municipal Opportunities and Regional Efficiencies (MORE) Commission Lapse". This is a program that is supposed to realize savings from the regionalization of services. In other words, there is not a specific grant program tied to the \$20.0 million reduction at this time.

Last September during the current fiscal year, the Governor made an identical reduction and eventually cut each town's PILOT: State Property Grant. Farmington's reduction at that time was \$170,883. It was unknown which grant program would actually be reduced in Fiscal 2016/2017. We anticipate that we may not know the actual reduction until September of 2016 when the PILOT: State Property Grant is paid. While the Manager was concerned about the extent of any reduction to next year's state grants, she asked to keep in mind that during deliberations on the Town Budget, you took action that provided us with a buffer should additional state grant cuts be made. She planned to continually monitor the situation and provide updates to the Town Council as more information became known.

She reported for the current year, we have been waiting on a large grant payment from the state which has normally been paid in February. The grant, which totals \$545,000 for Farmington, was awaiting State Bond Commission approval before it could be paid out. The State Bond Commission met on May 27, 2016 and approved funding for the grant program. Indications from state staff were that the grant would be distributed to each municipality by June 30, 2016. So, it should be received in adequate time to count it towards this year's revenue.

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

Adopted unanimously.

## L. Appointments

### 1. Plainville Area Cable TV Advisory Council

Motion was made and seconded (Trimble/Mastrobattista) that Philip Markuska be appointed the Plainville Area Cable TV Advisory Council for the a two-year term beginning immediately and ending June 30, 2018.

Adopted unanimously.

2. North Central Regional Mental Health Board, Inc. (Wienke) (R)

3. Building Code Board of Appeals (Schadler) (R)

4. Plainville Area Cable TV Advisory Council (Montes) (R)

5. Unionville Historic District and Properties Commission Alternate (Hoffman) (R)

There was no action taken on Agenda Items L-2 through L-5.

### 6. Conservation and Inland Wetlands Commission Alternate

Motion was made and seconded (Trimble/Mastrobattista) that Philip Markuska be appointed to the Conservation and Inland Wetlands Commission as an Alternate for the balance of a four-year term beginning immediately and ending September 30, 2017.

Adopted unanimously.

### 7. Human Relations Commission

Motion was made and seconded (Vibert/Suffredini) that Ruth Grobe be appointed to the Human Relations Commission for a two-year term beginning immediately and ending June 30, 2018.

Adopted unanimously.

8. Human Relations Commission (Bernard) (R)

There was no action taken on Agenda Item L-8.

### 9. Human Relations Commission

Motion was made and seconded (Trimble/Mastrobattista) that Christine Mergenthaler be appointed to the Human Relations Commission for a two-year term beginning immediately and ending June 30, 2018.

Adopted unanimously.

#### 10. Human Relations Commission

Motion was made and seconded (Vibert/Suffredini) that Zalman Nakhimovsky be appointed to the Human Relations Commission for a two-year term beginning immediately and ending June 30, 2018.

Adopted unanimously.

#### 11. Human Relations Commission

Motion was made and seconded (Trimble/Mastrobattista) that Jolanta Sliwinski be appointed to the Human Relations Commission for a two-year term beginning immediately and ending June 30, 2018.

Adopted unanimously.

#### 12. Plainville Area Cable TV Advisory Council

Motion was made and seconded (Vibert/Suffredini) that Patty Badigian-Buttero be appointed to the Plainville Area Cable TV Advisory Council for a two-year term beginning immediately and ending June 30, 2018.

Adopted unanimously.

13. Plainville Area Cable TV Advisory Council (Markuszka) (R)  
Action was taken under Agenda Item L-1.

#### M. Old Business

There was no Old Business Conducted.

#### N. New Business

1. To set a Public Hearing on July 12, 2016 at 7:05 p.m. to amend the Code of the Town of Farmington, Chapter 156 "Sewers".

Motion was made and seconded (Trimble/Mastrobattista) to set a public hearing on July 12, 2016 at 7:05 p.m. in the Town Hall Council Chambers to amend the Code of the Town of Farmington, Chapter 156 "Sewers" to include Section VI Sewer Use Charge System.

Adopted unanimously.

2. To approve the Town Council meeting schedule for 2017 and to set the date of the Annual Town Meeting.

Motion was made and seconded (Trimble/Mastrobattista) to approve the following Town Council meeting schedule for 2017 and to set the date of the Annual Town Meeting:

**TOWN COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE**

January 10	January 24
February 14	February 28
March 14	March 28
April 3* (Monday)	April 25
May 9	May 23
June 13	June 27
July 11	
August 8	
September 12	September 26
October 10	October 24
November 14	
December 12	

**ANNUAL TOWN MEETING(S) AND REFERENDUM(S)**

April 17	First Annual Town Meeting
April 27	First Referendum
May 1	Second Annual Town Meeting (if needed)
May 11	Second Referendum (if needed)

\*April 3rd is the Town Council Public Hearing on the budget.

Adopted unanimously.

3. To approve the 2017 Town Council Budget Special Meetings.

Motion was made and seconded (Trimble/Mastrobattista) to approve the following 2017 Town Council Budget Special Meetings:

**BUDGET SPECIAL MEETINGS**

March 15 (Wednesday)	4:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
March 16 (Thursday)	4:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
March 18 (Saturday)	9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon
March 20 (Monday)	4:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. (if needed)

March 21 (Tuesday)

4:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. (if needed)

Adopted unanimously.

4. To authorize the Board of Education, or a Sub-Committee appointed by the Board, to serve as the Building Committee for the Farmington High School Roof Replacement project.

Motion was made and seconded (Trimble/Mastrobattista) to authorize the Board of Education, or a Sub-Committee appointed by the Board, to serve as the Building Committee for the Farmington High School Roof Replacement project, and

1. To authorize the Board of Education to apply to the Commissioner of Education and to accept or reject a grant for the Roof Replacement project at Farmington High School.
2. To authorize the preparation of schematic drawings and outline specifications for the Roof Replacement project at Farmington High School.

Adopted unanimously.

5. To approve property tax refunds.

Motion was made and seconded (Trimble/Mastrobattista) to approve the following property tax refunds:

<b>NAME</b>	<b>REASON</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>
1)Michael Campbell	Assessor's adjustment	\$51.28
2)Daniel Dornfeld	Assessor's adjustment	\$148.09
3)Gregory Guay	Assessor's adjustment	\$228.33
4)J Gummere & R Marone	Assessor's adjustment	\$39.16
5)M Kuprewicz & J Kordowska	Assessor's adjustment	\$247.74
6)Nicole Maragnano	Assessor's adjustment	\$45.85
7)J Narasimharaju	Assessor's adjustment	\$356.42
8)William Torpey	Assessor's adjustment	\$132.91
	<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$1,249.78</b>

Adopted unanimously.



**O. Executive Session**

**1. Land Acquisition**

Motion was made and seconded (Trimble/Mastrobattista) to move to Executive Session at 7:31p.m. for the discussion of the selection of a site or the lease, sale or purchase of real estate with the Town Council and Town Manager present.

The Council returned to open session at 7:50 p.m.

**2. Collective Bargaining**

Motion was made and seconded (Trimble/Mastrobattista) to move to Executive Session at 7:50 p.m. for the discussion of records, reports and statements of strategy or negotiations with respect to collective bargaining with the Town Council and Town Manager present.

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

**3. Personnel Matters**

Motion was made and seconded (Trimble/Mastrobattista) to move to Executive Session at 8:20 p.m. for the discussion of personnel with the Town Council and Town Clerk present.

The Council returned to Open Session at 8:45 p.m.

**New Business**

**6. To set the Town Clerk's Salary for Fiscal Year 2016-2017.**

Motion was made and seconded (Trimble/Mastrobattista) to set the Town Clerk's salary at \$101,756.40 for the 20-16-2017 fiscal year a 2.75% increase.

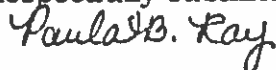
Adopted unanimously.

**P. Adjournment**

Motion was made and seconded (Trimble/Mastrobattista) to adjourn the meeting at 8:46 p.m.

Adopted unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,



Paula B. Ray, Clerk

INCORPORATED 1645

THE TOWN OF FARMINGTON



June 8, 2016

Agency File # 11-1

TOWN HALL  
1 MONTEITH DRIVE  
FARMINGTON, CONNECTICUT 06032-1053

INFORMATION (860) 675-2300  
FAX (860) 675-7140  
"BULLETIN BOARD" (860) 675-2301

Subject: Reconstruction of South Main Street  
at New Britain Avenue and Railroad Avenue

Dear Property Owner:

The Town of Farmington, in conjunction with the State of Connecticut Department of Transportation, is planning to construct improvements at the intersection of Route 177 and New Britain Avenue/Railroad Avenue. The installation of new traffic signals at the intersections of Route 177 at New Britain Avenue/Railroad Avenue, Mill Street and Route 4 will also be included as part of this project, as will a signed crossing for the Farmington River Tail's crossing of Route 177.

The Town of Farmington will conduct an informational meeting on June 20 at 7:00 pm at the Farmington Community and Senior Center located at 321 New Britain Avenue, Unionville, CT. Deaf and hearing impaired persons wishing to attend this meeting, and requiring an interpreter may make arrangements by contacting Matthew C. Blume, P.E., PTOE, Chief of Engineering Services at 860.675.2305 or [BlumeM@Farmington-ct.org](mailto:BlumeM@Farmington-ct.org) at least five working days prior to the meeting.

Based upon preliminary assessment, the construction cost will be approximately \$3,300,000. The Federal Highway Administration will provide 80 percent of the construction cost with the State of Connecticut and Town of Farmington each providing 10 percent.

It is the Town of Farmington's and the State's policy to keep persons informed and involved when such projects are undertaken. It is important that the community share its concerns with us to assist in the project's development.

Anyone interested in obtaining further information, providing input, or requiring language assistance may do so by contacting Matthew C. Blume, P.E., PTOE, Chief of Engineering Services at 860.675.2305.

Very Truly yours,

Kathleen A. Eagen  
Town Manager

CC:

Town Council Members  
Russell M. Arnold, Jr., P.E., TOF  
Matthew Blume, P.E., TOF  
Scott Roberts, P.E., CTDOT  
Tony Servidone, CTDOT  
Hugh Hayward, P.E., CTDOT  
Robert W. Ike, CTDOT  
Chief of Police  
Chief of Fire Department  
Superintendent of Schools

Town Plan and Zoning Commission  
Zoning Board of Appeals  
Conservation and Inland Wetlands  
Commission  
Unionville Village Improvement Association  
Unionville Architectural Design Review  
Committee  
Historic District Commission

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER



CC:

TC

**Kathy Eagen**

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**From:** Kathryn Howroyd  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 09, 2016 3:49 PM  
**To:** Kathy Eagen  
**Subject:** Michael Solomonides called 860.216.7889

Hi Kathy,

Michael called to follow up on the letter he sent yesterday (see below). Thanks!

Kathryn Howroyd  
Town Manager's Office  
1 Monteith Drive  
Farmington, CT 06032  
860.675.2369

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Solomonides, Michael [mailto:msolomonides@themdc.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 08, 2016 2:09 PM  
**To:** Kathy Eagen  
**Cc:** Lee Beckwith; Nancy Nickerson; Terry.Gerratana@cga.ct.gov; Mike.Demicco@cga.ct.gov; Brian.Becker@cga.ct.gov; Jellison, Scott; Stone, Chris; Bye@senatedems.ct.gov; Town Council Account for e-Mail  
**Subject:** Projected MDC Customer Surcharge Increase

Dear Ms. Eagan:

At our most recent MDC District Board meeting this week, Scott Jellison informed us of the anticipated increase in the Farmington Customer Surcharge that will be put into affect later this year, once the Capital expenditures are completed for the new Water main improvements being incorporated between the MDC facilities in West Hartford up through the UCONN medical campus. A formal letter from the MDC should be submitted to your office imminently, which further describes the calculations and impact to the resident MDC customers.

I don't have all of the figures available to me, but Scott informs us that this increase is the amount attributable to the customer base residing in Farmington (around 800+ customers) and is calculated based on the amount of capital expenditure residing in the the non UCONN owned properties and then equitably distributed amongst the Farmington MDC customers. Based on my own billing as a resident of Farmington served by the MDC, this increase will be about \$200. per year. Since the MDC customers served by the MDC is a relatively small population base, the increase is significant on a per household basis. UCONN is covering the costs all of the improvements that are supporting their requirements on their owned properties. The portion of the improvement residing in West Hartford is included in that member town's overall Water charge calculations.

Speaking with Mr. Jellison and Atty Chris Stone after the meeting, it is clear to them that with additional Capital improvements required within Farmington over the next 10 years, which will be required to support further development plans within the eastern sector of Farmington, (i.e. new designation of the Town planning and zoning board for increased medical office designation

in the area around the UCONN medical campus), reconsideration of the town status to that of a MDC member town would be advisable.

That would help dilute the impact of these capital improvements to beyond the 800+ residential customers that will be disproportionately impacted by these surcharges.

Sincerely,

Michael Solomonides

Non Voting Commissioner Representing Farmington [msolomonides@themdc.com](mailto:msolomonides@themdc.com)