

**REGULAR MEETING  
JUNE 20, 2011**

The Wethersfield Town Council held a meeting on Monday, June 20, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers, 505 Silas Deane Highway, Wethersfield.

Present: Councilors Drake, Hurley, Kotkin, Manousos, Montinieri, Roberts, Deputy Mayor Console, and Chairperson Hemmann. Absent: Councilor McAlister.

Also present: Jeff Bridges, Town Manager and Dolores G. Sassano, Town Clerk.

Councilor Montinieri led the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

PRESENTATION OF DRAFT REDEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR 1000 SILAS DEANE HIGHWAY – Presented by Mike Zaleski, Chair of the Wethersfield Redevelopment Agency and other members of the committee: Dan Camilliere.

Chairperson Zaleski presented a draft of what is being worked on for 1000 Silas Deane Highway, also known as the Weight Watchers Building. Consultants from Richter & Cegan, Bartram & Cochran and Fletcher Thompson presented the proposed plan they worked.

Councilor Drake noted overall he felt it was a good plan. He inquired to the \$20 million investment and asked if a \$200,000 difference is going to be enough.

Maura Cochran replied that it would be annually and the exact amount would depend on the final costs.

Councilor Manousos commented that perhaps Redevelopment and Finance can attend a meeting and get additional detail on the financials.

Councilor Kotkin asked if the Sherwin Williams building is actively used.

Mr. Gillespie responded that it is at this time.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT REPORT

**TOWN OF WETHERSFIELD**  
**Planning and Economic Development Department**  
**MONTHLY REPORT**  
**June 2011**

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## RECENT PROJECTS

- A sign application has been filed to change the name of Catcher's Sports Bar to Bluto's Bar and Grill at 580 Silas Deane Highway.
- A PZC application has been filled for a small expansion and façade improvements to property located at 450 Silas Deane Highway owned by Lamore's. A Façade improvement Loan request is anticipated.
- The PZC approved a request for an extension for the approval of plans for an 80 unit assisted living facility at 295 Ridge Road.
- On June 10 a ribbon cutting was held to celebrate the reopening of the expanded outdoor patio at Lucky Lou's Bar and Grill at 222 Main Street.



- On June 10 a ribbon cutting was held to celebrate the opening of Rugged Fitness in the Atlas Tile Plaza at 1862 Berlin Turnpike.



- Plato's Closet in the Wethersfield Shopping Center at 1055 Silas Deane Highway is expanding into adjacent space in the center.
- A building permit has been filed for the Panera Bread building in the Wethersfield Shopping Center at 1129 Silas Deane Highway.

## OTHER NEWS AND INITIATIVES

### Developer/Tenant Contacts

- Staff attended the public hearing and provided written and verbal comments for the plans for a residential development project proposed for land on the Town Line in Newington on Russell Road. The application was submitted by Toll Brothers, Inc and the proposal consists of a 71 lot open space subdivision on a series of 4 cul de sacs to be known as Newington Walk on property owned by the Balf Company. Additionally, an application has been filed to rezone commercial property with frontage on East Cedar Street abutting the above
- referenced property to a Residential 12 zoning classification in anticipation of a 75 unit townhouse condominium development. The public hearing with the Newington PZC has been continued.
- Met with consultant representing client interested in the re-use of the now vacant Tim Horton's building at the corner of Church and Silas Deane Highway.
- Met with architect working on plans for the re-use of the vacant Amici's restaurant building at 672 Silas Deane Highway.
- Provided market data to developer interested in the vacant Masonic building on Main Street.

### Redevelopment Agency

- **1000 Silas Deane Highway** – Bartram and Cochran has prepared the draft plans for the redevelopment of this property for staff review. The plans call for the demolition of the existing building and the replacement with a mixed use commercial development with some residential units on the upper levels. The plans will be presented to Town Council on June 20 to begin the formal review process that will also include the PZC.

### Economic Development and Improvement Commission

- Construction has commenced on the 3rd phase of the Silas Deane Highway Streetscape improvements in front of Town Hall. Improvements will include the completion of the brick walkways, additional seating, ornamental lighting, new signage and a semi-circular drop off area to service the building.



- The EDIC has announced that this year's Salute To Business Event will be held at the Country Club on December 8, 2011.
- The EDIC has announced the creation of a new subcommittee that will focus upon efforts to expand it's business visitation efforts.
- The EDIC has announced the scheduling of a business breakfast meeting at the Country Club on September 30, 2011.

- The Shops Local Alliance is in the midst of a membership drive to increase the visibility and membership in the program.
- Received the State Assistance Agreement from the DECD for the next phase (IV) of the SDH Streetscape improvement program. An additional \$250,000 grant has been provided to the Town from the STEAP program.
- Received a signed State Assistance Agreement from the DECD for \$250,000 to further fund our façade improvement Program.

**Events – The following events were held over the past month:**

- May 12, 2011 Wethersfield Country Club **45<sup>th</sup> Annual Chamber Awards Dinner and Annual Meeting.**
- May 21 the Wethersfield Historical Society held it's Annual Keeney Family Day.
- May 28 the Webb Deane Stevens Museum held it's 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Revolutionary War encampment.
- June 2, 3 pm to 6 pm Wethersfield Farmers Market began it's season at the Keeney Cultural Center of Main Street.
- Comstock Ferre and Co. June 5 celebration to celebrate the **200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the founding of Comstock Ferre.** The event included entertainment, educational displays, some food and some crafts.

**Tourism**

- **ibrochure** - Working with Madden Media on the development of an electronic promotional brochure (ibrochure) which will be used as an alternative to our printed brochure in response to inquiries received from our recent ad in the CT Getaway Guide.
- The Commission is working with the Pita Group on a number of marketing initiatives relative to our recent grant from the CT Commission on Culture and Tourism.
- Work continues on the implementation of the **Wayfinding Signage** project. We are presently working with Sign Lite (low bidder) on the details for the installation.

**Meeting/Event Schedule June**

|         |                             |
|---------|-----------------------------|
| June 2  | Chamber of Commerce 8:30 am |
| June 9  | EDIC 12 noon                |
| June 21 | PZC 7 pm                    |
| June 28 | Tourism Commission 5:30 pm  |
| June 29 | Shops Local                 |

Deputy Mayor Console reported that he and several other council members attended the ribbon cutting ceremony at Lucky Lou's for the patio extension and commented that this is a nice touch to the Town.

Councilor Roberts commented that there was an article in the paper regarding the expansion of Habachi Grill locations in Connecticut and asked if Peter Gillespie was aware of it.

Peter Gillespie responded that there have been talks with people who are looking at the vacant restaurant locations in Wethersfield, but he was not sure if it is the same group as Councilor Roberts had referenced.

#### PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Hearing: Article XXI Code of Ethics. No one spoke on this issue.

#### GENERAL COMMENTS:

##### Public

Larry Spellacy, 215 Pine Lane was delighted in the participation from federal, state and local government as well as the WWII parade marshals, essay winners and the community. The parade committee worked well and was able to provide another band this year. While this was the biggest parade the ceremony at the cemetery continues to be the most important part. The service honors the veterans, some deployed overseas as young boys, some who gave their lives and others who returned, for their country.

Ballou Tooker, 65 Harmund Place commented that the plan presented tonight appears to be a good plan. Mr. Tooker also spoke of the taxes, Ethics episode of two people misbehaving happened at a cost \$600,000 and the importance of the flag and the lack of respect shown for it.

George Wallace, 22 Chesterfield Rd, also a WWII veteran spoke of the young Americans in uniform, 3.5 million in combat with 34 from town and 405,000 never returned home.

Robert Young, 20 Coppermill Rd, spoke on the plan presented tonight. He feels there is little use for apartments for people selling their homes and remaining in Wethersfield when people are leaving the state. The ethics dispute cost \$600,000 and counting with a lot of letters in the papers. Floating bonds for road repairs is another example of not living within our means as they have to be paid back. The Wethersfield Housing Authority should be involved in any decision making process for more building.

#### COUNCIL REPORTS

Councilor Manousos reported that the Budget and Finance Committee will be meeting on the Board of Education's request for contingency funds and other items next week.

Councilor Kotkin spoke on the Insurance Committee news and reported that claims are quite good and there may be up to \$800,000 surplus in health care costs. The Town also had a better experience in worker's compensation which is already reflected in the budget.

Town Manager Bridges confirmed that it reflected in the budget and that the property claims have dropped in the past year.

Councilor Manousos spoke for Councilor McAlister on the Public Works meeting last week which was reviewing the four separate parcels of town owned land. They wanted to bring them back to the entire Town Council as an agreement was not reached on all of them. They would like to combine the two properties known as Savage Park and the area owned by Corpus Christi Church and sell as one parcel. With regards to Middletown Avenue, the State has first right of refusal. If the State refuses it, the committee would recommend it be divided between the adjoining property owners, with a section retained for future municipal use. With Crest Street, no agreement was met. It was recommended that the front section with the basketball court facing Crest Street be cut and the back area sold off as a lot with access from the street below. With the parcel at Westlook and Nott Streets, there are two building lots, and the decision is whether it should it be kept as open green space, leave it as is or see what the Parks and Recreation Committee recommends.

Councilor Montinieri asked if the letter of the 14<sup>th</sup> went to everyone on Council or just in the committee packets.

Jeff Bridges responded that the letter only went to the Public Works Committee.

### COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilor Montinieri commented on a letter received from Highcrest School Principal Maresa Harvey and Mrs. Winiarski regarding the chronology of events of the 6<sup>th</sup> grade class Boston bus trip.

Deputy Mayor Console commented on the Wethersfield Post article on Memorial Day and flag protocol. He plans to be sure that someone is reminded to raise the American flag at noon next year. He also inquired as to whether the fence at the gateway entrance at Marsh Street was installed correctly on the property owned by Jim Clynch. Deputy Mayor Console also reported that he met with Ms. Jordan's class at the Wethersfield High School. He read a letter he received from the class thanking him for his visit. (See Attachment 1). He also spoke on the resolution for Road Bond that will be discussed later in the meeting. He calculated that the interested on the \$4 million bond is going to be \$1.9 million and agreed with Councilor Drake's idea of "pay as you go" approach. Deputy Mayor Console also noted that he has received phone calls about tag sales in Town, and in particular, a tag sale that is held every weekend on the corner of Lexington Street and Jordan Lane. He noted that it is his understanding that there can be no more than three tag sales a year at a particular address. He also reported that he and Mayor Hemmann attended a Police Benevolent function at the Solomon Welles House. He also commented on retired police officer, Marlene Schaffer, who commented on the Wethersfield Police Department at the last Town Council meeting. He noted that he had an opportunity to

speak with Jennie Keyes, who had recently been promoted to Sergeant in the Wethersfield Police Department. He read into the record of letter he received from Sergeant Keyes. (Attachment 2.)

Deputy Mayor Console commented on a letter he had received from Superintendent McDowell which asked for a public apology from him on the Highcrest School bus situation. He commented that he will never apology to Dr. McDowell and if the Superintendent wants the names of the individuals who called him that evening, he will give him the names.

### TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

Jeff Bridges commented on the Legislative Session where there was discussion about Bill 1170 and modifying the governing structure of the CRRA and noted that the Bill died before the end of the session. He also reported that the MOU for the CREC facility is written and nothing needs to come to the Board for action.

Chairperson Hemmann commented that an item needs to be added to the agenda.

Deputy Mayor Console moved **“TO ADD AN ITEM TO THE AGENDA FOR AN EXECUTIVE SESSION AT THE END OF THE MEETING TO DISCUSS A LABOR PERSONNEL MATTER,”** seconded by Councilor Hurley.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 8-0-0.

### COUNCIL ACTION

Councilor Montinieri moved **“TO REAPPOINT DAVID D. AMBROSE, 119 FARMINGDALE ROAD, TO THE BUILDING APPEALS BOARD, FOR THE TERM 7-1-11 THROUGH 6-30-16,”** seconded by Councilor Kotkin.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 8-0-0.

Councilor Montinieri moved **“TO REAPPOINT LOUIS P. ROBITAILLE, JR., 144 HANG DOG LANE, AND ROBERT TURGEON, 962 CLOVERDALE CIRCLE, TO THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE, FOR THE TERM 7-1-11 THROUGH 6-30-13,”** seconded by Councilor Kotkin.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 8-0-0.

Councilor Montinieri moved **“TO APPOINT JAMES STREETO, MD., 17 PERKINS WAY, TO THE CENTRAL CONNECTICUT HEALTH DISTRICT, FOR THER TERM 7-1-11 TO 6-30-14,”** seconded by Councilor Kotkin.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 8-0-0.

Councilor Montinieri moved **“REAPPOINT BARBARA BLEJEWSKI, 4 TABSHEY COURT, JAMES F. GRISE, 455 WOLCOTT HILL ROAD, CAROL KEENAN, 430 WOLCOTT HILL ROAD, TO THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILTIES, FOR THE TERM 07-01-11 TO 06-30-13,”** seconded by Councilor Kotkin.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 8-0-0.

Councilor Montinieri moved **“APPOINT PHIL KNECHT, 100 EXECUTIVE SQUARE, TO THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILTIES, FOR THE TERM 07-01-11 TO 06-30-12, AND LAURA MORRIS, 389 PROSPECT STREET, TO THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILTIES, FOR THE TERM 07-01-11 TO 06-30-13,”** seconded by Councilor Kotkin.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 8-0-0.

Councilor Montinieri moved **“TO REAPPOINT FRANCIS FARRELLY, 24 DEER LEDGE LANE, JOHN J. O’LEARY, P.O. BOX 290002, TO THE FAIR RENT COMMISSION, FOR THE TERM 07-01-11 THROUGH 06-30-13,”** seconded by Councilor Kotkin.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 8-0-0.

Councilor Montinieri moved **“TO APPOINT PHIL KNECHT, 100 EXECUTIVE SQUARE, TO THE FAIR RENT COMMISSION, FOR THE TERM 07-01-11 THROUGH 06-30-13,”** seconded by Councilor Kotkin.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 8-0-0.

Councilor Montinieri moved **“TO REAPPOINT JOHN F. MAYCOCK, 13 MEGGAT PARK, AS AN ALTERNATE TO THE FLOOD & EROSION CONTROL BOARD, FOR THE TERM 07-01-11 THROUGH 06-30-14,”** seconded by Councilor Kotkin.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 8-0-0.

Councilor Montinieri moved **“TO REAPPOINT SAMUEL A. SPRATLIN, 115 BROAD STREET, TO THE WETHERSFIELD HOUSING AUTHORITY, FOR THE TERM 07-01-11 THROUGH 08-30-16,”** seconded by Councilor Kotkin.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 8-0-0.

Councilor Montinieri moved **“TO APPOINT SANDRA SHULTZ, 64 SPRINGDALE.**

**ROAD, TO THE HUMAN RIGHTS AND RELATIONS COMMISSION, FOR THE TERM 07-01-11 THROUGH 06-30-14,”** seconded by Councilor Kotkin. All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 8-0-0.

Councilor Montinieri moved **“TO APPOINT JOSEPH HART, 38 LACONIA ROAD, TO THE INLAND WETLANDS AND WATERS COURSES COMMISSION, FOR THE TERM 07-01-11 THROUGH 06-30-14,”** seconded by Councilor Kotkin.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 8-0-0.

Montinieri moved **“TO APPOINT GREG CURTIN, 115 CENTER STREET, TO THE INSURANCE COMMITTEE, FOR THE TERM 07-01-11 THROUGH 06-30-16,”** seconded by Councilor Kotkin.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 8-0-0.

Councilor Montinieri moved **“TO APPOINT JOHN GALLIVAN, 72 WESTWOOD DRIVE, AND DORENE CIARCIA, 36 SPRING STREET, TO THE LIBRARY BOARD OF DIRECTORS, FOR THE TERM 07-01-11 THROUGH 06-30-14,”** seconded by Councilor Kotkin.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 9-0-0.

Councilor Montinieri moved **“TO REAPPOINT J. EDWARD BRYMER, 64 OLD POST ROAD, TO THE PERSONNEL APPEALS BOARD, FOR THE TERM 07-01-11 THROUGH 06-30-14,”** seconded by Councilor Kotkin.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. Councilor Roberts ABSTAINED. The motion passed 7-0-1.

Councilor Montinieri moved **“TO REAPPOINT THOMAS A. HARLEY, 289 CEDAR STREET, ANTHONY J. HOMICKI, 201 CUMBERLAND AVENUE AND THOMAS R. DEAN AS AN ALTERNATE, TO THE PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION, FOR THE TERM 07-1-11 THROUGH 6-30-2014”** seconded by Councilor Kotkin.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 8-0-0.

Councilor Montinieri moved **“TO REAPPOINT ADELE J. ANTONIOU, 16 BERMUDA ROAD, TO THE SENIOR CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE, FOR THE TERM 07-01-11 THROUGH 06-2013,”** seconded by Councilor Kotkin.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 8-0-0.

Councilor Montinieri moved **“TO REAPPOINT PHILIP J. CASHMAN, 96 OX YOKE DRIVE, TO THE SHADE TREE COMMISSION FOR THE TERM 07-01-11 THROUGH 06-30-14,”** seconded by Councilor Kotkin.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 8-0-0.

Councilor Montinieri moved **“TO REAPPOINT ANNE R. DOYLE, 269 WOLCOTT HILL ROAD AND THERESA ROSE URBANSKI, 46 MARMOR COURT, TO THE SOLOMON WELLES HOUSE COMMITTEE, FOR THE TERM 07-01-11 THROUGH 06-30-14,”** seconded by Councilor Kotkin.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 8-0-0.

Councilor Montinieri moved **“TO REAPPOINT DORCAS MCHUGH (EDIC), 508 HIGHLAND STREET, TO THE TOURISM COMMISSION, FOR THE TERM 07-01-11 THROUGH 06-30-14,”** seconded by Councilor Kotkin.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 8-0-0.

Councilor Montinieri moved **“TO REAPPOINT DEBRA L. HAMMER, 65 BROAD STREET, VICTORIA BORKOWSKI (UNDER 21), 91 GOFF ROAD TO THE YOUTH ADVISORY BOARD, FOR THE TERM 07-01-11 THROUGH 06-30-14,”** seconded by Councilor Kotkin.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 8-0-0.

Councilor Montinieri moved **“TO APPOINT CYNTHIA ZUERBLIS, 119 TWO ROD HIGHWAY, TO THE YOUTH ADVISORY BOARD FOR THE TERM 07-01-11 THROUGH 06-30-13,”** seconded by Councilor Kotkin.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 8-0-0.

Councilor Montinieri moved **“TO APPOINT NANCY FLYNN, 109 SPRINGDALE ROAD, TO THE YOUTH ADVISORY ROAD, FOR THE TERM 7-1-11 THROUGH 6-30-12, FILLING A VACANCY,”** seconded by Councilor Kotkin.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 8-0-0.

Councilor Montinieri moved **“TO APPOINT BRENT OWEN, 42 WELLS QUARTER VILLAGE TO THE BOARD OF ASSESSMENT APPEALS (ALTERNATE 3 YEAR TERM), FOR THE TERM 07-01-11 THROUGH 06-30-14,”** seconded by Councilor Kotkin.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 8-0-0.

Councilor Montinieri moved **“TO APPOINT JOSEPH M. SMITH, 83 APPLE HILL ROAD TO THE CONNECTICUT RIVER ASSEMBLY FOR THE TERM 07-1-11 THROUGH 06-30-14,”** seconded by Councilor Kotkin.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 8-0-0.

Deputy Mayor Console moved **“TO APPOINT STEVEN L. ANDREA, 430 MAIN STREET AND CRAIG S. PINNEY, 40 PALOMINA WAY, TO THE BOARD OF BUILDING APPEALS, FOR THE TERM 07-01-11 THROUGH 06-30-14,”** seconded by Councilor Hurley.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 8-0-0.

Deputy Mayor Console moved **“TO REAPPOINT NANCY STILWELL, 505 SILAS DEANE HIGHWAY, TO THE CHILDREN, MUNICIPAL AGENT FOR, FOR THE TERM 07-01-11 THROUGH 06-30-13,”** seconded by Councilor Hurley.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 8-0-0.

Deputy Mayor Console moved **“TO REAPPOINT RICHARD S. GARREY, 35 HARDING STREET, TO THE COX CABLE TELEVISION ADVISORY COUNCIL, FOR THE TERM 07-01-11 THROUGH 06-30-13,”** seconded by Councilor Hurley.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 8-0-0.

Deputy Mayor Console moved **“TO REAPPOINT JOAN HAINES, 516 HIGHLAND STREET, TO THE WETHERSFIELD ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES, FOR THE TERM 07-01-11 THROUGH 06-30-13,”** seconded by Councilor Hurley.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 8-0-0.

Deputy Mayor Console moved **“TO REAPPOINT CHRISTINE TAYLOR, 505 SILAS DEANE HIGHWAY, TO THE MUNICIPAL AGENT FOR THE ELDERLY, FOR THE TERM 07-01-11 THROUGH 06-30-13,”** seconded by Councilor Hurley.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 8-0-0.

Deputy Mayor Console moved **“TO REAPPOINT WESLEY E. SARGENT, 39 RANDY LAND, TO THE FLOOD & EROSION CONROL BOARD, FOR THE TERM 07-01-11**

**THROUGH 06-30-13,”** seconded by Councilor Hurley.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 8-0-0.

Deputy Mayor Console moved **“TO REAPPOINT SANDY GILLANDERS, 66 SHARON LANE, TO THE HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION, FOR THE TERM 07-01-11 THROUGH 06-30-14,”** seconded by Councilor Hurley.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 8-0-0.

Deputy Mayor Console moved **“TO REAPPOINT MARK KULMACZ, 376 OLD PEWTER LANE, BARBARA J. RUHE, 79 MAIN STREET, AND MARK S. TOWNSEND AS AN ALTERNATE, TO THE HUMAN RIGHTS AND RELATIONS COMMISSION, FOR THE TERM 07-01-11 THROUGH 06-30-14,”** seconded by Councilor Hurley.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 8-0-0.

Deputy Mayor Console moved **“TO REAPPOINT LAWRENCE F. BUCK, 360 MAIN STREET, ROBERT COBB, 99 MEADOW VIEW, TO THE INLAND WETLANDS AND WATER COURSES COMMISSION, FOR THE TERM 07-01-11 THROUGH 06-30-14,”** seconded by Councilor Hurley.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 8-0-0.

Deputy Mayor Console moved **“TO REAPPOINT PAUL D. MEADE, 373 MAIN STREET, TO THE INSURANCE COMMITTEE FOR THE TERM 07-01-11 THROUGH 06-30-16,”** seconded by Councilor Hurley.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 8-0-0.

Deputy Mayor Console moved **“TO APPOINT LAURIE WRONA, 16 FAIRMONT STREET, AND ELLYN LARAMIE, NOTT STREET, TO THE LIBRARY BOARD OF DIRECTORS, FOR THE TERM 07-01-11 THROUGH 06-30-14,”** seconded by Councilor Hurley.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 8-0-0.

Deputy Mayor Console moved **“TO REAPPOINT PETER MOZZICATO, 23 WELLS FARM DRIVE, PARKS & RECREATION BOARD, FOR THE TERM 07-01-11 THROUGH 06-30-14,”** seconded by Councilor Hurley.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 8-0-0.

Deputy Mayor Console moved **“TO REAPPOINT DANIEL MONTANO, 435 OLD RESERVIOR ROAD, TO THE PERSONNEL APPEALS BOARD, FOR THE TERM 07-01-11 THROUGH 06-30-14,”** seconded by Councilor Hurley.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 8-0-0.

Deputy Mayor Console moved **“TO APPOINT GEORGE W. COTE, 131 CHARTER ROAD, TO HE PERSONNEL APPEALS BOARD, FOR THE TERM 07-01-11 THROUGH 06-30-14,”** seconded by Councilor Hurley.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 8-0-0.

Deputy Mayor Console moved **“TO REAPPOINT DAVID R. EDWARDS, III, 200 WINDMILL HILL, TO THE PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION, FOR THE TERM 07-01-11 THROUGH 06-30-14,”** seconded by Councilor Hurley.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 8-0-0.

Deputy Mayor Console moved **“TO REAPPOINT KATHY BAGLEY (PARKS & RECREATION), 505 SILAS DEANE HIGHWAY, DONNA MATTISON (SOCIAL SERVICES) 505 SILAS DEANE HIGHWAY, KATHI LIBERMAN (HOUSING AUTHORITY), 60 LANCASTER ROAD, CLAIRE A. MEHAN (HEALTH/MED), 34 TWO BROOK ROAD, AND JOSEPH M. MEHAN, (HEALTH/MED), 34 TWO BROOK ROAD, TO THE SENIOR CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE, FOR THE TERM 07-01-11 TO 06-30-2013,”** seconded by Councilor Hurley.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 8-0-0.

Deputy Mayor Console moved **“TO REAPPOINT MARY E. MAHAR, 36 OLD PEPPERIDGE LANE, TO THE SOLOMON WELLES HOUSE COMMITTEE, FOR THE TERM 07-01-11 THROUGH 06-30-14,”** seconded by Councilor Hurley.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 8-0-0.

Deputy Mayor Console moved **“TO REAPPOINT CHARLES E. FORSDICK, 18 MONTICELLO DRIVE, AND CAROL HALL, 51 CARRIAGE HILL DRIVE, TO THE TOURISM COMMISSION, FOR THE TERM 07-01-11 THROUGH 06-30-14,”** seconded by Councilor Hurley.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 8-0-0.

Deputy Mayor Console moved **“TO REAPPOINT GERALDINE P. MUNROE, 855 RIDGE ROAD, TO THE CENTRAL REGIONAL TOURISM DISTRICT, FOR THE TERM 07-01-11 THROUGH 06-30-14,”** seconded by Councilor Hurley.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 8-0-0.

Deputy Mayor Console moved **“TO REAPPOINT PHIL SMITHWICK , 57 MAPLEWOOD AVENUE, WALLINGFORD, TO THE TREE WARDEN, FOR THE TERM 07-01-11 THROUGH 12-31-11,”** seconded by Councilor Hurley.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 8-0-0.

Deputy Mayor Console moved **“TO REAPPOINT EUGENE ZIURYS, JR., 176 AMHERT STREET, TO THE ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS, FOR THE TERM 07-01-11 THROUGH 6-30-16,”** seconded by Councilor Hurley.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 8-0-0.

Deputy Mayor Console moved **“TO APPOINT KEVIN ROGERS, 23 QUAIL HILL, AS AN ALTERNATE TO THE ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS, FOR THE TERM 07-01-11 THROUGH 06-30-14”** seconded by Councilor Hurley.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 8-0-0.

Deputy Mayor Console moved **“TO ADOPT THE PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE TOWN OF WETHERSFIELD CODE, ARTICLE XXI CODE OF ETHICS (SEC. 10-64 – SEC. 10-74),”** seconded by Councilor Roberts.

Jeff Bridges reported that the changes modify the ordinance in that the report of the Ethics Commission would go to the governing body of that particular person.

Councilor Roberts commented that she had raised concerns earlier that the language was not clear and added that she had worked with the Town Attorney and it is now much clearer and she thanked Attorney Forysth for his work on the changes.

Councilor Kotkin had a question on the section regarding sanctions and penalties and asked if there are cases where people can be removed from office as a result of an ethics violation.

Jeff Bridges responded that this provision covers both elected officials staff officials.

Councilor Kotkin asked Jeff Bridges if he would get back with Council about where the “for instances” are.

Councilor Drake asked why the Town Council, who has authority over the whole Town, shouldn't make the decisions.

Chairperson Hemmann responded that the Town Council does not have jurisdiction.

Councilor Drake commented that it should then read that the Town Council has jurisdiction.

Chairperson Hemmann responded that the Charter would need to be changed, and the Board of Education is governed by the State Board of Education.

Councilor Hurley commented that what he thinks it is trying to do is if someone who is under the Board of Education's realm does something wrong, there is nothing the Council can do, but the Board of Education can.

Jeff Bridges commented that the Town ran into conflict with the report. If the Board of Ethics had given the report to the Board of Education, it may have had more substance in the outcome. But in giving to the Council with no authority, all that could be done is refer it to them as an informational piece.

Councilor Manousos commented that this is cleaning up language.

Councilor Drake commented that he would like the Council to have authority over everything.

Councilor Roberts responded that statutorily, the Council cannot have authority over everything.

Councilor Montinieri commented that what is trying to be said is that the designated point of authority would be the group that any ethics commission findings would be forwarded to so that it is consistent with the authority that is vested in the Charter. He noted that in his opinion, what should be addressed that if the complainant involved in an Ethics Commission report are in fact are the appointing authority, there should be some language or correction, but noted that this is not for this hearing tonight.

Councilor Manousos commented that the appointing authority is the only one that has information that perhaps the general public does not, and they would be the most qualified ones to make that decision. He questioned why the appointing authority wouldn't accept the recommendations of an independent body.

Councilor Montinieri noted that one of the recommendations forwarded by this year, were not enacted and were not followed and in fact, the governing body, the Board of Education, did not act on those recommendations.

Councilor Roberts commented that she thought the Ethics statutes had a major overhaul within

the past three or four years by the Ethics Committee prior to this one, and clarified and tightened up a lot. She was cautious about re-opening up this issue. She felt this clarified who the appointing authority was.

Councilor Drake commented that the Board of Ethics had no resources to do this investigation and he felt it got out of hand with attorneys on both sides doing the investigation.

Deputy Mayor Console commented that he agreed with Councilor Drake because this isn't doing what needs to be done. Connecticut General Statutes Section 10-220 and 10-232 may address some of the issues, and noted that he is going to vote no on this matter.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. Councilor Drake and Deputy Mayor Console voted NO. The motion passed 6-2-0.

#### OTHER BUSINESS

Councilor Hurley moved **“TO AUTHORIZE THE TOWN MANAGER TO CREATE A TECHNOLOGY RESERVE FUND AND TO TRANSFER \$15,000 FROM THE TOWN MANAGER’S BUDGET AND \$5,000 FROM THE DATA SERVICES BUDGET TO THE TECHNOLOGY RESERVE FUND,”** seconded by Councilor Manousos.

Jeff Bridges reported that as a result of planned changes in the Town’s internet and website infrastructure, certain projects were not completed in the current budget year. The two projects were a disaster recovery plan (\$5,000) and a citizen request management software program (\$15,000). Once the Town moves to a fiber internet connection (funded in the 2011-12 budget), storage on the “cloud” is a possibility, which would change how the Town plans for disaster recovery. Staff is planning to include a front end citizen request form as part of the Town’s re-designed web site (funded in the 2011-12 fiscal year). The management and tracking system will be developed as part of the process. The funds in the current year budget, if transferred to the reserve fund, will be used to complete both projects as required. If all of the funds are not needed, they will remain in the reserve for future technology enhancements that will support providing more efficient and effective services.

Jeff Bridges responded that there is a program that the Building Inspector uses to funnel projects through the Fire Marshal and Town Engineer. It was hoped that this would be online by this time, but it has not. It is in this year’s budget so they want to hold onto the money until next year when the vendor is ready.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 8-0-0.

Councilor Manousos moved **“TO AUTHORIZE THE TOWN MANAGER TO APPLY FOR A \$500,000 STEAP GRANT FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO MILLWOODS PARK,”** seconded by Councilor Hurley.

Jeff Bridges reported that this is a single request for Millwoods Park to fund projects that haven't been able to be funded otherwise. The work would involve paving the parking lots and fixing of the pool.

Councilor Kotkin asked for more information on what is being done for the drainage on the beach.

Mike Turner reported that the money that is being requested under the STEAP Grant would fund both the design and the construction. It is anticipated that it will need a drainage system installed to divert the water.

Councilor Kotkin asked if he felt the problem was fixable.

Mike Turner responded that he did feel it was fixable.

Councilor Kotkin asked if this project would include fixing the road so that it aligns with Prospect Street.

Mike Turner responded that it does not include fixing the road. He noted that this project does not preclude ever fixing the alignment of the road.

Councilor Hurley inquired as to whether the Town would receive all of the money or just part of the money.

Jeff Bridges responded that there has been split awards.

Mike Turner commented that the Town is told what can be done with the money.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 8-0-0.

Deputy Mayor Console moved **“TO FREEZE THE WAGES AND EMPLOYEE HEALTH CARE CONTRIBUTIONS FOR THE MEMBERS OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP AT THE 2010-2011 AMOUNTS,”** seconded by Councilor Hurley.

Jeff Bridges reported, that consistent to what is being done with the collective bargaining agreements, the administrative groups are also taking a hard zero this year. As is being done with the other collective bargaining agreements, we are asking for a freeze, not only with wages, but also for employee share on health benefits.

Councilor Drake asked if there is a contract with this group.

Jeff Bridges responded that these are non-union employees.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 8-0-0.

Councilor Hurley moved **“TO EITHER REFER PARCEL 1 – NOTT STREET AND WESTLOOK, TO THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE, KEEP THE PARCELS AS IS, OR DISPOSE OF IN ACCORDANCE WITH CHAPTER 37 OF THE CODE OF THE TOWN OF WETHERSFIELD,”** seconded by Councilor Roberts.

Jeff Bridges reported that the Public Works Committee has been reviewing parcels owned by the Town and have identified four that have been considered changing the disposition either to direct donation to adjacent property owners, outright sale, or keep a portion and sell a portion. There has not been an agreement on the parcel at Nott Street and Westlook so the Committee has asked the Council to weigh in on one of these three choices.

Councilor Drake commented that he felt that this was one of the lots that the Town should keep.

Councilor Roberts commented that she also agreed with Councilor Drake that the Town should keep the property.

Deputy Mayor Console commented that he also agreed with Councilors Drake and Roberts.

Councilor Hurley commented that he would like to dispose of the property as it is a corner lot and doesn't seem like a good area for a park.

Chairperson Hemmann commented that the Conservation Commission looks to hold on to open space and their view is that this should be kept as open space. She commented that she felt it should be left as open space and didn't feel it was a good location for a park.

Councilor Manousos commented that he felt that if this property was going to be turned into a park, it needs to be fully accessible and public. At this time, he doesn't feel it is a good location for a park. He noted that he doesn't feel it is a good area for open space as it is a waste of Town's resources and is underperforming.

Councilor Roberts commented that the intention of referring the matter to Parks and Recreation Committee to see if they have any ideas for making a park out of the area or putting a park bench there. She didn't feel a full park was needed, but she felt the Town had a commitment to open space. Her preference is to keep the area as open space.

Councilor Kotkin commented that he was in favor of selling off this parcel of land.

Councilor Manousos noted that at the first Public Works Committee meeting in September, a resident who lived across the street from this parcel noted that no one used this property and he was in favor of selling it.

Councilor Montinieri commented that the majority of people who came to the meeting in September were in favor of selling the parcel and he may base his thought on that, but there were also people who came out who did not favor selling the parcel.

Councilor Manousos asked Councilor Montinieri if he had the numbers.

Councilor Montinieri responded that there were four “no” and one “yes.”

Councilor Manousos asked how many letters were sent out to the residents.

Chairperson Hemmann responded that 120 letters went out.

Councilor Manousos commented that those 120 residents had the opportunity to come to the meeting.

Councilor Roberts commented that at the second meeting at the parcel, people were very vocal and concerned that the land was going to be turned into building lots.

Councilor Manousos asked what the property was presently zoned as.

Mike Turner responded that it was originally two building lots in the original subdivision, and the Town took it as a potential spot for the Fire Department administrative offices.

Councilor Montinieri suggested polling the Council and give recommendations to Councilors Manousos and McAlister and let them go from there.

Councilor Manousos commented that perhaps it should go to Parks and Recreation to get their thoughts and to also send it to the Police Department for public safety issues.

Councilor Drake commented that he was in favor of getting rid of slivers of land, but this is a significant portion of land that adds a lot to that area.

Councilor Hurley moved **“TO REFER PARCEL 1 – NOTT STREET AND WESTLOOK ROAD TO THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE FOR THEIR RECOMMENDATION AS TO ITS USE,”** seconded by Deputy Mayor Console.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 8-0-0.

Councilor Hurley moved **“TO WORK WITH CORPUS CHRISTI CHURCH TO SELL THE TOWN’S PARCEL ALONG WITH THE PARCEL OWNED BY CORPUS CHRISTI, OR IF THAT CANNOT BE ARRANGED, GO AHEAD AND DISPOSE OF IN ACCORDANCE WITH CHAPTER 37 OF THE CODE OF THE TOWN OF WETHERSFIELD REPLACING THE PARKLAND AS NECESSARY,”** seconded by Councilor Roberts.

Jeff Bridges reported this property is next to Corpus Christi on the Silas Deane Highway and is listed as park land in the Town code. The Public Works Committee has met with representatives from Corpus Christi and they have expressed an interest in selling the Corpus Christi property.

Councilor Drake commented that everyone on the Committee was very positive in selling the property.

Councilor Montinieri asked if selling the Town’s portion of land was contingent upon Corpus Christi selling their land or is it being packaged together to be made more attractive.

Jeff Bridges responded that they are trying to coordinate it to make it more attractive.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 8-0-0.

Councilor Hurley moved **“TO DIVIDE PARCEL 3 – CREST STREET AND DISPOSE OF THE BACK PORTION OF THE LOT IN ACCORDANCE WITH CHAPTER 37 OF THE CODE OF THE TOWN OF WETHERSFIELD THE FRONT PORTION TO REMAIN AS A PARK,”** seconded by Deputy Mayor Console.

Jeff Bridges reported that the Committee is looking to divide this parcel in half, and the front half of the property remain as a basketball court/park and the back portion that slopes down to Colonel Chester, be disposed of as a building lot.

Councilor Kotkin commented that he wasn’t interested in selling off the parcel because there was a commitment made by the Town to preserve this property. He wasn’t clear about what it meant by the back portion of the parcel. He noted that he needed more information on where the property would be divided.

Deputy Mayor Console commented that he agreed with Councilor Kotkin because there isn’t enough information, but he felt it should be left for the community with the basketball court in front and a playground area in the back for children.

Councilor Drake commented that the discussion was that no one used the area in the back. He commented that the entire lot should be sold off or just keep the front portion with the basketball

court.

Councilor Manousos commented that he thought the line wouldn't be right behind the court; it would be set back to allow usage behind the court.

Councilor Roberts commented there were some residents from Ridge Road who felt the property should be left alone. She felt that she could compromise and sell off the back portion of the parcel and renovate the basketball court.

Councilor Drake commented that he felt the money that is received from a sale should be put into open space, or be decided by Capital Improvements. He noted that selling something to fix something bothers him.

Chairperson Hemmann commented that money from the sale of open space should go back into the same funds.

Councilor Drake moved **"TO REFER PARCEL 3 – CREST STREET, TO THE TOWN ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT TO HAVE A SCHEMATIC DONE AND REFER BACK TO COUNCIL AS TO HOW IT MAY OR MAY NOT BE DIVIDED,"** seconded by Councilor Manousos.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. Councilor Montinieri voted NO. The motion passed 7-1-0.

Councilor Hurley moved **"TO REQUEST THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT THE ABILITY TO TRANSFER TITLE TO THE PARCEL BY DIRECT GRANT TO THE ADJACENT PROPERTY OWNERS RESERVING A PORTION OF THE LOT FOR POSSIBLE FUTURE MUNICIPAL USE. THE PARCELS GRANTED WOULD BE RESTRICTED FROM FURTHER DEVELOPMENT,"** seconded by Councilor Manousos.

Jeff Bridges reported that this parcel is adjacent to the highway that backs up to several peoples' houses. The State has first right of refusal on the parcel. In the event the State does not want it back, the Town could divide up the parcels and deed the pieces to the adjacent landowners preserving a spot for possible future municipal use.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 8-0-0.

### BIDS

Deputy Mayor Console moved **"TO AWARD A CONTRACT TO VHB ENGINEERS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$28,500 FOR THE REINSPECTION AND EVALUATION OF ALL TOWN ROADS, INCLUDING DIGITAL VIDEO RECORDING AND ENTRY OF DATA INTO THE SOFTWARE PROGRAM,"** seconded by Councilor Hurley.

Jeff Bridges reported that it has been ten years since VHB has done the current process for evaluating all the town roads. There have been concerns with the current process as to deciding which roads receive resurfacing. As part of this year's budget, the actual survey will be renewed. In addition, he noted that there needs to be a process and a policy adopted that dictates how the roads are determined to be evaluated.

Deputy Mayor Console inquired as to whether this will solve the issues with Pine Lane, Yale Street and other streets that have had major issues with their roads.

Jeff Bridges responded that there will be a hierarchy of needs with the roads maintenance program. The purpose of the committee is to evaluate which criteria to use each year in judging which roads need to be done. Not every road can be at the top of the list and not every road can be at the bottom of the list, but the new procedure will help everyone be more comfortable with the program.

Chairperson Hemmann asked what other towns do for their road maintenance.

Mike Turner responded that most towns have developed a database of the current conditions of the roads and rely on that. Someone would still need to go out and physically confirm what has transpired. He also noted that Amy Bisbi, an engineer from VHB is at the meeting tonight to answer any questions. He noted that one of the things that affect the road selection process is the average daily traffic, how the road is being used and how fast it is deteriorating. He explained that they have data available since 1995 on how Wethersfield roads deteriorate.

Deputy Mayor Console commented that a former Town Manager, Mr. Bauer, promised everyone in Town that all the roads would be replaced every ten to fifteen years. He explained that an actual person physically inspected all the roads. Deputy Mayor Console commented that he didn't think this is going to do what needs to be done.

Mike Turner responded that they have evolved more into a management system. One aspect of pavement management is that not all the money is put into the worst roads. There are good roads that need to be maintained in good shape, there are middle of the roads that may not need structural improvement but need some type of routine or preventive maintenance to keep the roads from deteriorating and there are roads that are in poor shape now that are only going to get worse and it's a matter of reaching a balance with the pavement money.

Councilor Kotkin noted that there were three cost categories in the bid with recommendations for only the first two categories but not for the software system support and direct expenses.

Mike Turner responded that the software system support is built into the operating budget of the Engineering Department so it was included in the proposal but the Capital budget would be

paying for the evaluation.

Deputy Mayor Console asked Mike Turner to drive on Yale Street, Pine Lane and then to Ivy Lane and he noted that those streets will still be in the same condition that they are in now. He noted that he didn't feel this was the proper procedure to follow.

Councilor Roberts commented that technology should be trusted. She inquired as to whether this information will be updated annually.

Mike Turner responded that he had spoken with Amy Bisbi about how other towns do this and it was recommended to do a return cycle every four or five years and look at all the roads at the same time.

Chairperson Hemmann asked if once the evaluation is done and the information is inputted into the database, if a complaint comes in or a town staff or police officer were to report something on a road, is there a way to input that data into the computer that would further assess that particular issue.

Amy Bisbi responded that as the Town does repairs, they are encouraged to go into the database to see what the distresses are on that particular roadway and that is how the condition is cataloged. She noted that the Town does a very good job with the database.

Jeff Bridges commented that the database is one tool in the process. There will still need some mechanism for evaluating the roads.

Amy Bisbi noted that they recommend all towns to use this as a tool in the road decision process.

Chairperson Hemmann noted that a better process needs to be identified and developed.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. Deputy Mayor Console voted NO. The motion passed 7-1-0.

Deputy Mayor Console moved **“TO AWARD A CONTRACT TO ANNSEAL, INC. IN THE AMOUNT OF \$20,000 FOR HOT POUR PAVEMENT SEALING FOR FISCAL YEAR 2011-12,”** secured by Councilor Manousos.

Jeff Bridges reported that crack sealing of pavement has been identified as one of the most cost effective maintenance strategies according to the Town's engineering experts. Rain and surface runoff enters the pavement surface via cracks and other defects and thru freeze/thaw action will prematurely deteriorate the roadway and base.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 8-0-0.

Councilor Hurley moved **“TO AWARD A CONTRACT TO MULCHSEAL, LLC IN THE AMOUNT OF \$25,000 FOR COLD METHOD PAVEMENT CRACK SEALING FOR FISCAL YEAR 2011-12,”** seconded by Deputy Mayor Console.

Jeff Bridges reported that this procedure is likened to capping the roads to preserve the lifespan and keep the oil lubricated in the streets.

Councilor Drake asked why the amount is not \$20,000, \$40,000 or \$50,000.

Mike Turner responded that crack sealing is the most cost effective method. \$50,000 has been set aside out of the entire paving budget for crack sealing.

Councilor Manousos asked why this contract is per diem and the other contract is per linear foot.

Mike Turner responded that is how it out to bid to CRCOG.

Councilor Manousos asked if the staff will be supervising the project so that the per diem is not being taken advantage of.

Mike Turner responded that a staff person is assigned to them for the full forty hours.

Councilor Manousos asked if this has ever been bid as a linear foot.

Mike Turner responded that it is not bid as a linear foot.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 8-0-0.

Councilor Hurley moved **“TO AWARD A BID TO ATLANTIC PAVEMENT MARKING IN THE AMOUNT OF \$33,000 FOR PAVEMENT MARKING FOR FISCAL YEAR 2011-12,”** seconded by Councilor Manousos.

Jeff Bridges reported that this is proper markings according to MUTCD.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. Deputy Mayor Console voted NO. The motion passed 7-1-0.

#### ORDINANCES, RESOLUTIONS, APPOINTMENTS FOR INTRODUCTION

Introduction of a resolution seeking referendum for \$4,000,000 for road improvements to be placed on the November ballot.

Ordinance for Introduction that will allow Town Clerk Dolores G. Sassano to apply for and accept, a grant of \$6,000 to continue the Records Management program already underway.

### MINUTES

Deputy Mayor Console moved **“TO APPROVE THE REGUALR MEETING MINUTES OF MAY 16, 2011”** seconded by Councilor Hurley.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. Councilor Kotkin ABSTAINED. The motion passed 7-0-1.

Deputy Mayor Console moved **“TO APPROVE THE REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF JUNE 6, 2011”** seconded by Councilor Hurley.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 8-0-0.

### PUBLIC COMMENTS

Coleen Sheridan, 31 State Street, commented that a cost benefit analysis was missing from the discussions on the disposition of the parcels of land. She noted that the value of the property should be known before disposing of the property.

Chairperson Hemmann noted that a cost benefit analysis was done and included in the reports to the committee.

Robert Young, 20 Coppermill Road, spoke on the Ethics issue and hoped that Council would consider a Charter revision. He also spoke about the \$670,000 that the Town owes the States of Connecticut. There was a letter in the minutes that noted money was taken from that building fund and used for Physical Services for a canopy over the gasoline area.

Jeff Bridges responded that the original bond resolution included \$500,000 in upgrades to the Physical Services building so it was part of the original bond project.

Robert Young commented that it somehow got into the school project.

Jeff Bridges noted that those are two separate issues. That portion of the project that needs to be bonded, it finalized.

Robert Young commented that he attended a May 10 meeting with the Board of Education and CREC. He noted that the Board of Education seemed more interested in the control of the \$2 million.

George Wallace, 22 Chesterfield Road, commented that Old Saybrook was using a new material for road paving at the cost of \$1.50/square foot. He wondered if anyone had checked with Old Saybrook to see how the product is working.

Jeff Bridges responded that someone did speak with an individual in Old Saybrook and the material being used is chip seal, it's small, granular. He noted that the Town has abandoned using chip seal as a practice.

At 10:10 p.m., Deputy Mayor Console moved **"TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS PERSONNEL MATTERS,"** seconded by Councilor Montinieri.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 8-0-0.

At 10:25 p.m., Councilor Hurley moved **"TO LEAVE EXECUTIVE SESSION,"** seconded by Deputy Mayor Console.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 8-0-0.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

At 10:26 p.m., Councilor Kotkin moved **"TO ADJOURN THE MEETING"** seconded by Councilor Montinieri.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 8-0-0.

Dolores G. Sassano  
Town Clerk  
*Approved by vote of Council*  
*July 18, 2011*



Dear Mr Console,

6/16/11

On behalf of Ms Jordan's second period Wethersfield Studies class I would like to thank you for coming in and speaking to us. The information you gave us was insightful and you spoke to us in a way we could relate to and understand. We appreciate all that you do for our town and we wish you the best of luck continuing your good work. Once again we thank you.

Sincerely,

Gianna Cerbone

on behalf of Wethersfield Studies

June 19<sup>th</sup>, 2011

RECEIVED

JUN 20 2011

TOWN MANAGER'S OFFICE

Letter to the Wethersfield Town Council:

My name is Jennie Keyes and I have been a member of the Wethersfield Police Department since 1999. I am writing in response to statements made at the Wethersfield Town Council Meeting held on June 6<sup>th</sup>, 2011, regarding an article published in the Wethersfield Life. On March 7<sup>th</sup>, 2011, I was promoted to the rank of Sergeant, assigned to the department's patrol division. As the first female police officer in the history of the department to achieve this rank, I was asked to participate in an interview with a reporter from the publication. Viewing this as an opportunity to promote the advancement of females in our profession and to serve as a role model and inspiration to other females in our community, I agreed.

As a stranger to the press and other media, I was relieved to attend the interview with Wethersfield's Police Chief, James Cetran. During the interview, the male reporter directed several questions to Chief Cetran and me. At one point, the reporter asked me where I would be assigned and what my duties would include as a "female Sergeant". In responding to the questions, it appeared to me that the reporter may have been trying to determine if my duties as a female sergeant would differ from those of a male sergeant and if I felt as though I may face greater challenges adjusting to the position as the first "female" supervisor in a traditionally male dominated profession. Now I was in no way offended or surprised by this line of questioning and I attempted to adequately answer the questions. If anything, these only affirmed my decision to participate in the interview, with hopes of further educating members of the public. Throughout my 11 plus years with the department, I have been asked similar questions by curious community members – questions such as, "Are you assigned inside; do they allow you to go to calls alone; do you ride around with male officers; don't you get scared you will get hurt by yourself" and so many others. As a member of the Wethersfield Police Department since 1973, Chief Cetran has greater personal knowledge of the department's history. Chief Cetran responded to this line of questioning by pointing out that the department's first female police officer was hired in 1975, ironically for me, the same year I was born. He went on to state that the department now employs 6 female officers, all of which have served in the uniformed patrol division, responding to emergency calls for service. He acknowledged that in the past, there was an adjustment

period for ALL with the addition of uniformed female police officers. Females were often met with skepticism and not easily accepted by their male peers until proving themselves capable- a well-known documented fact in the law enforcement community. In an act of chivalry, male officers also sometimes felt compelled to protect, step in, or stand up for females (something I still occasionally encounter on the job). In addition, changes became necessary with regards to equipment, uniforms, and facilities. In answering these interview questions, Chief Cetran in no way made statements that would lead a reasonable person to believe that Wethersfield's female police officers, either past or present, were less physically, mentally, or emotionally capable of handling the vital responsibilities of a police officer than their male colleagues. He simply pointed out to the interviewer, that times have changed, society's beliefs have changed, and that the role of the female police officer is more easily accepted and recognized by ALL in 2011, since the addition of Wethersfield's first female officer in 1975.

It is my understanding that retired Officer Marlene Schaeffer was in fact the first female police officer in the town of Wethersfield. As such, she began to build a foundation for the advancement of women police officers in Wethersfield. As the first female police sergeant, I am confident that Chief Cetran has served, and will continue to serve as an ally in the advancement of not only female officers, but all deserving officers under his command. He has proven to be a leader with integrity, making staffing and promotional decisions based on an individual's capabilities and accomplishments, not on gender or antiquated beliefs. While serving as Wethersfield's Police Chief since 2003, he has appointed the first female officers to the following leadership positions: Dare Officer, Honor Guard, K-9 Handler, Field Training Officer, Master Patrol Officer, and Sergeant. He has increased the number of female officers on the force from 4 to 5. He has been supportive to female officers who struggle with juggling the task of starting a family with maintaining a career, by making suitable schedule adjustments. He has even donated his own personal sick time to allow the officer more time at home with their new baby, before returning to the demands of police work. It is these actions that more accurately represent Chief Cetran's character as a leader of one of the finest police departments, NOT a couple of vague statements taken out of context, in what was meant to be a positive article for the town of Wethersfield and its progressing police department. Having been present during the entire interview, it is my hope that this serves to clear up any misunderstanding as to what was being said or represented that day.

Thank you,

Sgt. Jennie E. Keyes #127

Sergeant Jennie E. Keyes