

REGULAR MEETING OCTOBER 15, 2007

The Wethersfield Town Council held a meeting on Monday, October 15, 2007 at 7:30 p.m. in the Banquet Room of the Pitkin Community Center.

Present: Councilors Cascio, Drake, Forrest, Kirsche, Kotkin, Montinieri, Walsh, Deputy Mayor Fortunato and Chairperson Adil.

Also present: Bonnie Therrien, Town Manager and Dolores G. Sassano, Town Clerk.

All stood for the pledge of allegiance to the flag which was led by Deputy Mayor Fortunato.

PROCLAMATIONS

WHITE CANE SAFETY DAY

Chairperson Adil read a Proclamation for White Cane Safety Day.

Francis Meunier, Jr., 117 Wells Road, said that he is proud to come to these meetings to receive the Proclamation. He said that the Federation for the Blind is about what the blind can do. The Federation has inspired him, with the help of friends, to learn to walk to the drug store and other shops in the area. He said that a friend passed away recently and he used transportation to attend the funeral services in Hartford. He said that effort was inspired by the ideas of the National Federation of the Blind. He said it may not be a great achievement but he was able to go to something he wanted to be a part of. The Federation is about teaching the blind what they can do and helping them find ways to do it.

PRESENTATION BY THE DOG PARK COMMITTEE

Chairperson Adil welcomed the Dog Park Committee.

Cathy Boyes, 20 Westlook Road, thanked the Town Council for the opportunity to speak at the meeting. She said that two years ago the committee came to the Town Council to seek approval to build a dog park. Last year, the Wethersfield Dog Park opened. It has been a great addition to Mill Woods Park. Hundreds of dogs have used the park on a daily basis. Several other Towns are looking to build dog parks. They are using Wethersfield as a guide. Thank you for your support. The Wethersfield Dog Park Committee is here to present two checks each in the amount of \$1,063, one to the Wethersfield Dog Pound and the other to the Police Dog Unit. It is the Dog Park Committee's way to give back to the community for their belief in the Dog Park concept. The money was raised during the two dog swims. She thanked the Dog Warden for his help with the Dog Park.

Chairperson Adil thanked the Committee for their very generous donation. He said that he loves the park.

FIRE RESCUE - CONNECTICUT RIVER

Chairperson Adil presented a Proclamation to the Wethersfield Fire Department and Glastonbury Fire Department for their work in the rescue of an individual in the Connecticut River. He also thanked the Wethersfield Fire Department for their work this past Thursday night at the Keeney Cultural Center. He said that he is very proud of all they do.

Chuck Flynn, Wethersfield Fire Chief accepted the Proclamation. He said that the River rescue was a team effort. He recognized Lt. James Ritter, Engineer Brian Lawton, Fire Fighter Joyce Russo, Captain Anthony Dignoti, Engineer Ed

Smith, and all members of the Department.

PRESENTATION BY THE CLEAN ENERGY COMMITTEE

Virginia Judson, 74 Cedar Street, Chairperson of the Clean Energy Committee, said that in April 2006 the Town Council joined the Connecticut Clean Energy Council. The pledge is to purchase 20 percent of its energy from clean energy sources by 2010. 20 percent would be about 1,652 megawatt hours. This will send a message to the market that there are viable clean energy alternatives. The Town Council appointed the Committee in September 2006. As a CL&P customer the Town can purchase clean energy through CL&P's clean energy options. The rates are set by the DPUC. There are rebates and different mixes of clean energy sources. The Committee recommends that the Town purchase its clean energy from Collegiate Energy because its price is slightly lower and it actually owns much of the electric generating facilities and isn't simply a broker for others. The Committee recommends that the Town Council add \$1,400 to the \$10,000 already budgeted for a clean energy purchase this year. This should result in 20 percent of the Town's energy coming from clean energy in 2008. It would set the stage to maintain the pledge in the future. The Committee realizes that the Town and Board of Education are researching the possibility of switching from CL&P to another supplier. If this is pursued, the Committee would be happy to advise the Town in the process. Offsetting these cost are a couple of items - Community Energy will provide rebates for the Town for each resident that signs up with Community Energy. Outreach efforts will highlight this fact. The Connecticut Clean Energy Fund will provide a solar panel to the Town for each 100 residents that sign up for Community Energy or Sterling Planet. The consultant will assess buildings for the location of the panels. The Committee's outreach programs also highlight this program. The Committee is pursuing press releases and had a booth at the Cornfest. The Committee received a \$5,000 grant in which it can provide mini-grants to community groups who help raise awareness of clean energy issues and encourage residents to sign up for clean energy. One grant has been awarded to The Wethersfield Ecumenical Clean Energy Conservation Committee for a public lecture on climate change and the showing of the documentary "An Inconvenient Truth". Applications for other groups are being accepted. The greatest potential for controlling future energy costs will be identifying opportunities to conserve electricity and improve efficiency in the Town Hall and Board of Education. The Committee is working with CL&P on the Town and Board of Education's different electricity accounts to better monitor usage over time. The Committee is moving ahead and appreciates the Town Council's continued support.

Councilor Walsh asked if there is an effective way for the public to get information about the programs. Is it listed on the Town website?

Christopher Shepard, Director of the Nature Center, said that he is the staff liaison for the Clean Energy Committee. The Committee information is on the Town website and has links to other energy websites.

Councilor Drake asked if the Town Council would see the study of the schools' energy use.

Virginia Judson said that the Committee has an interim report and she would be happy to make it available to Councilors.

Councilor Drake said that he is interested in seeing how it is working out with the schools.

Christopher Shepard said that the Institute of Sustainable Energy provided a benchmark analysis for the Town which is different from what the consultant for the Board of Education did. The consultant did a more comprehensive review.

Chairperson Adil thanked the Committee for the report and said that the Town Council looks forward to moving on to the next step and identifying more efficiencies with Town buildings.

Dolores Sassano, Town Clerk took attendance.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

HEARING

RESOLUTION - ENERGY PROCUREMENT COMPANY - WORLD ENERGY SOLUTIONS, INC

Bonnie Therrien, Town Manager, said that World Energy Solutions will provide energy options for the Town so that the Town can receive reduced rates on electricity.

RESOLUTION - SOCIAL SERVICES BLOCK GRANT

Bonnie Therrien, Town Manager, said that this is an annual grant from the State. It is a little more than what the Town usually receives.

GENERAL COMMENTS

Howard A. Willard Jr., 141 Main Street, thanked the Town Councilors for their service to the Town. He said unfortunately, residents turn out at meetings when they think the Town Council is making a mistake. He is opposed to this referendum. He said that private property rights are threatened because of the 2,000 foot proposed swath of land. Tax money would purchase properties that no one else wants. Town taxes will be raised after the revaluation. An alternative is to cut spending. He urged voters to vote no.

Shirley Steinmetz, 375 Brimfield Road, thanked Deputy Mayor Fortunato and Councilor Kirsche for their service on the Town Council. She said that Deputy Mayor Fortunato has served the Town for 12 years. She has attended many meetings and always did her homework. She wishes her all the best. She said that Councilor Kirsche has always voted keeping in mind what is in the best interest of the Town. She thanked them both for their service to this wonderful Town.

Tristan J. Stanziale, 15 Harold Drive, thanked the retiring Town Councilors. He said that Councilor Kirsche has done a great job on the Town Council. He said that Deputy Mayor Fortunato has done much for the Town over the past 12 years. He wished all Councilors good luck on election night.

Penny Stanziale, 15 Harold Drive, also thanked Councilor Kirsche and Deputy Mayor Fortunato for their commitment and time dedicated to the Town. She looks forward to seeing them in other roles in the Town. She thanked them for serving Wethersfield and wished all of the Councilors good luck in the election.

Doreen Garcia, 33 Sherburne Road, said that she is voting no on this weak referendum and no to this deficient agency. She said that in 6 years, the long term debt has increased over 250 percent and the Town wants to add another \$10,000,000. It is extremely excessive. She said please stop any more bonding referendums. The Town has exceeded its debt limit.

Ralph O. Moyer, Jr., 9 Grandview Terrace, speaking as a representative of the Conservation Commission, said that the Commission met last week and learned the good news about the Town's intention to purchase lot 47, Prospect Street. The Commission is in charge of taking the inventory of the Town's open space. It is all too clear that open space is fast disappearing in Wethersfield. He said that he hopes to see the Town move forward with the purchase of this parcel.

Edward Kardas, 850 Cloverdale Circle, said that the Redevelopment Agency convinced itself and the Town Council to put this bad referendum before the voters. The Agency anticipates redeveloping 13 unidentified parcels. The Agency should ask the public if it is interested in supporting the change of the residential character of the Town. The Town should be looking at reducing costs while improving services. Maybe a tiered tax structure should be used connecting taxes to services being used. He said that he will be voting no.

Robert N. Smart, 62 Church Street, said that he is not in favor of the referendum. It is a lot of money. He said this is essentially a slush fund to be spent at the Town's discretion without any public input. The Town has \$44,000,000 of bond debt now and there are more referendums to come, like the High School and Hammer School. The target area for this referendum is 1,000 foot swath along the Silas Deane Highway and Berlin Turnpike. It is too big a swath. Anyone with property inside it will be at risk. This is corporate welfare. Be leery.

Leigh H. Standish, 278 Hartford Avenue, thanked Deputy Mayor Fortunato for standing up to the MDC for a clean Wethersfield Cove. He said that at the August 6, 2007 Redevelopment Commission presentation there was very serious misinformation. Regarding eminent domain, the Town can take residential property. He said that the public is given an opportunity to influence the redevelopment through the public hearings but speaking in opposition leads to being ignored. He said Comstock is an example of this. He said that he challenges the Town Council to find an instance when it voted against the recommendations of one of its committees. He said school bond projects are coming up in the future. He said the taxpayers can't afford this risky business. He urged all citizens to vote against the bond referendum.

Ballou M. Tooker, 65 Harmond Place, said that he lives within the 1,000 feet zone. At first he thought this was a good idea. Now he is uneasy with the plan. He has had enough of the debt and taxes and will vote no.

Robert F. Young, 20 Coppermill Road, said that the muffled noise in the room from the sound system should not be occurring. With a budget of \$75,000,000 the Town should be able to get a good sound system. He provided the Town Clerk with a hand out. He said that the Redevelopment Agency will have the right to use eminent domain. He read an ordinance passed by Council in August 2005. He said that eminent domain will happen. It is a land grab. Taxes have gone up 40 percent in the last 4 years. Vote no on the referendum.

Joe Soja, 30 Hedgerow, said that redevelopment is good for the Town. The explanatory text mailing on the referendum will go out shortly. He asked voters to read the text and study it and make an informed decision. The Grand List is stagnant. The Town doesn't have many options. There are vacant properties that have been sitting for years. Only 13 percent of the tax base is commercial. In surrounding Town's, the commercial property makes up a large portion of their grand lists. The bond money will only be spent on projects that are approved by the Planning and Zoning Commission and Town Council. There will be public hearings. The Agency does not want to take residential properties. He asked how people expect to increase the tax base and keep up with spending. He said that the Redevelopment Agency meetings are open to the public and yet he doesn't see anyone at them.

Mary Dobruck, 689 Folly Brook Drive, said to say she is thrilled by the MDC report is an understatement. Wethersfield is contributing significantly to the sewage in the Cove. It is documented clearly. The Folly Brook trunkline is a contributor. She urges the Town Council to keep this issue before it. She said that a lot of the sewer system should be going into the storm system. She said Council needs to find out if the system can handle it and if the residents can afford to change over their systems. The problem needs to be fixed.

Daniel E. Andrews, 21 Stonegate Drive, said that the property at 233 Highland Street had an application before the Planning and Zoning Commission to subdivide it into two lots. It was passed through the Zoning Board of Appeals as a hardship as a nonconforming lot because it was a corner lot. After reading the Zoning Regulations, he thinks it was not a valid hardship reason. The character of the neighborhood will be affected by this subdivision. He said that he is appealing to the Town Council to step in and tell the Planning and Zoning what is important to the Town. He said that the current property owner has not paid taxes on the property since 1994. The owner does not care about the neighborhood and neither does the potential purchaser.

Filomena G. Marinelli, 16 Stonegate Drive, said that she disagrees with the building of two homes on 233 Highland Street that currently has one. It will set the stage for other variances and will affect open space. The current property has never been maintained. She asked why the Town has allowed this to go on for 13 years. She said that there were potential buyers for the property that were interested in building one home on the lot. The Zoning Board of Appeals didn't listen to the neighbors and their voices are falling on deaf ears with Planning and Zoning as well.

Kenneth E. Sokolowski, 79 Main Street, said that he is voting no on the referendum. He said that the obnoxious aspects of the referendum is that voters will be effectively disenfranchising themselves by voting for these high ticket projects. The biggest reason to vote no is that the public will have to take the Town Council's word for it. He said that the Town Council owes it to the residents to let them decide how to spend their money. The public has a right to macro-manage the Town Council.

Nancy O. Andrews, 21 Stonegate Drive, speaking against the subdivision, said that as a resident of Town, she expects the Boards and Commissions to do what is in the best interest of its residents. That is not happening. She contacted

attorneys who told her that the residents have a case and would win but the cost could be as much as \$30,000. The resident shouldn't have to pay for what the Town should be doing for its citizens.

Ed Tevald, 894 Ridge Road, said that he can't argue against the purpose of the referendum, to increase the commercial tax base. But the way it is being done is questionable. By using public money it becomes corporate welfare. He said to look at the Town Hall/Library bond project. It is disgraceful. He will vote no. There are a lot of voices here tonight in opposition to this referendum.

COUNCIL REPORTS & COMMENTS

Councilor Walsh said that the Infrastructure Committee met on October 9th with Joel Rinebold from the Connecticut Center for Advanced Technology to discuss energy districts. He has been invited back to speak with the Redevelopment Agency. The Committee discussed the progression of the Standish House lease and the comments will be brought to the Historical Society Board for its review. The Committee also discussed the Morrison Avenue road/sidewalk project. He said Councilor Montinieri will update Council on it.

Councilor Montinieri said that:

- The Infrastructure Committee discussed Morrison Avenue in response to the Public Works Director's report. There were five options provided from simple in scope to significant in scope. The sidewalk issue is important to many of the members of the Infrastructure Committee. Many of the members have expressed concern over the safety of Morrison Avenue. There is an expressed interest in correcting the issue as quickly as reasonably possible. The Committee is trying to develop a compromise that takes into account the shared responsibility for the condition of the sidewalks. It looks like there are several alternatives that will go to the Capital Improvement Committee. The Committee is trying to find an alternative that is reasonable in scope and cost and relies on some discussion with the residents. The residents are very insistent that the total cost of the Morrison Avenue correction be the responsibility of the Town. Speaking for what he believes is the entire Infrastructure Committee, the Town has to consider the Ordinance in place for sidewalks today but how other residents of the Town will feel about the Town picking up the entire cost of this project. Particularly when you consider many residents have already paid out of pocket for sidewalk repairs and installation. The proposals that are now being honed in on by the Public Works Director will be back to the Infrastructure Committee and then on to the Capital Improvement Committee. Public Works will provide additional snow plowing services to that street to ensure the safety of the residents on Morrison Avenue.
- The Tourism Commission met. Last weekend was very busy in Town. The Historical Society had its fair. The Scarecrows on Main are in full tilt. The Tourism Commission provided support for tourism in the Historic District and around Town by the wrap bus and trolley bus. It was coordinated with the Silas Robbins House Tour, too.
- The new website has been completed and is up and running. He encouraged everyone to take a look at the new website. He said that it is very impressive.

Councilor Cascio said that the Memorial Day Parade Committee meeting is scheduled for October 22nd at the Community Center. The parade is a 12 month project. The Wethersfield Chamber of Commerce meets the first Thursday of the month. The November meeting will be a strategic planning meeting to find out what scope the Chamber is going to be working towards for the businesses in Town. The Cornfest was a lot of work and produced only a small profit. That profit generates the scholarships that are awarded to Wethersfield High School seniors. The Business After-Hours program has been very successful.

Councilor Forrest said that the Conservation Commission met to discuss the YMCA property purchase. The Committee was ecstatic. The Commission also had some discussions on working with the MDC on other conservation efforts.

Councilor Kotkin said that the Mill Woods Building Committee met a couple of weeks ago and will meet again this week. There is a \$700,000 grant from the State but the work for the new Soccer and Little League fields will probably cost more than that. He said that imaginative fundraising may be needed, like that of the dog park and bocci court.

Councilor Walsh said that he appreciates all of the comments of the public on their concerns on redevelopment. He hopes people will keep an open mind on this. He said that he is bothered by some buzz words that are going around. He would like to address a couple of points. The Kelo vs. New London case hits us all very close. The central issue in that case is the power of eminent domain, taking residential property to turn it over to private developers. It was argued that the public purpose served was to build up the tax base. There have been many reactions to that at the State and local level. In August 2005, the previous Council passed an Ordinance limiting eminent domain. It prevents the Council from taking property for private purposes. It was referenced by one of the speakers about the Town taking private property for public use. That was to reserve the traditional constitutional powers of eminent domain when there has been no controversy for schools, or highways or sewers, all parties agree that is what eminent domain was for. At the State level, just compensation has been set at 125 percent of market value. If a Town wanted to step in and take a property through eminent domain, it would have to pay at least that amount. Eminent domain is available, but is the very last tool to be used. The Redevelopment Agency has looked at 13 possible projects so that it can work with people that are interested in doing the redevelopment on their own. There will be owners on the Silas Deane Highway that will be interested in redevelopment. There is empty retail space along the Silas Deane Highway and \$10,000,000 is not going to cure all the ills on the corridor. The intent is to work with people who are interested to develop projects that can show more business owners what the Silas Deane Highway should be: to attract a mix of residential, commercial and retail properties that will give the Town a workforce along the Silas Deane Highway who would want to shop and eat there. The Town lamented for a long time that it missed out on expansions in order to enhance the commercial tax base. If the Town can use these corridors to redevelop, the Town can reduce the pressure that is on what is left of open space. Right now only 13 percent of the Town's tax base is commercial. Compare that to 27 percent for Newington and 31 percent for Rocky Hill. A healthy base is somewhere between 30 and 35 percent. The Town is at a crisis point. This can be a golden opportunity for the Town if it is done right. The Redevelopment Agency will help the Town to steer development in the right direction. If a property owner wanted to sell a property to someone that the Town did not want to move in, the Town could step in and turn it over to a better interest. In that instance, where the Town would purchase property and then sell it, the money from the sale of the property would go to pay off the bond. This ordinance doesn't spend any money. Money will be spent only after a Planning and Zoning hearing and approval by the Town Council. When the projects become available the money will be spent. This ordinance does not create a slush fund. \$10,000,000 is not spent until a project is approved. He said he hopes people will keep an open mind about this and will vote for it.

Councilor Kirsche said that he'd like to provide a point of clarification regarding the issue of Morrison Avenue and the representation at the prior meeting that our state delegation, namely Senator Doyle and Representative Morin, were backing the petition by the Morrison Ave residents to have the Town fund the entire renovation of the street and sidewalks. He would like to inform everyone, namely the Infrastructure Committee and the residents of Morrison Ave, that in follow-up correspondence with both delegates, they disavowed support for the petition as a Senator and Representative, indicating that they never meant to pledge support beyond that of private citizens. He said he asked both to clarify this this evening themselves, but Representative Morin understandably had a scheduling conflict. Representative Morin did tell him that he intends to pursue State funding for the endeavor. Senator Doyle indicated that he stands behind the precedent that the Town should fully fund the project. He felt it particularly important that the misconception that "Senator" Doyle and "Representative" Morin backed the petition be corrected. Certainly the Infrastructure Committee, as demonstrated by Councilor Walsh and Councilor Montinieri this evening, has dedicated a lot of time and effort to reach a mutually agreeable compromise, one which is ongoing, and misconceptions may only cloud and skew the effort. The second issue is on a much lighter note. He said that he is very grateful to the voters of Wethersfield. He is thrilled to have worked with this Council and wishes everyone the best in the future. He appreciates the Deputy Mayor for all of her years of service. He thanked his wife for her understanding of his time commitment.

Councilor Cascio asked the Town Manager for more information about the Stonegate Drive issue concerning the building of houses on two lots.

Bonnie Therrien, Town Manager, said that she can provide the Town Council with the minutes of the Zoning Board of Appeals meeting and get an outline of why they voted the way they did. And now that it is with the Planning and Zoning Commission, there are certain State Statutes that they have to follow. She said that she know residents would like the Town Council to step in and intercede but she cautioned Council that Planning and Zoning has to follow very

specific State Statutes. She said she will get a complete report to Council this week.

Councilor Cascio said that it is important to get that information to the residents who have spent time attending meetings. Also, he wanted to wish the departing Council members all the best. In 1992, he met Christine Fortunato when she bought his house on Fairmont Street. From there it has been a friendship down a great path. He said that they may not see eye to eye on every issue but he wishes her the best in all her endeavors. She was always prepared and speaks from her heart. Steve Kirsche is a young, energetic individual. He said that when Steve approached him to say he might run, he encouraged him and said it would be the best thing for the Town. Steve has great potential and he wishes him all the best in the future.

Councilor Kotkin asked for the Zoning Board of Appeals meeting minutes concerning Stonegate Drive and also a 15 year history on the property taxes paid on that property. Also, he said that Councilor Kirsche has been on the Budget and Finance Committee and Public Safety Committee and has added a lot to the discussions and deliberations. There are a number of people in Town who are benefiting from some of your initiatives. He thanked him for all of his contributions. He thanked Deputy Mayor Fortunato for her service. He said that there will be an intellectual void on the Council that will be created by her departure. She asked a lot of questions over the years which a lot of us had to think hard to consider and recognize that we are all better off for the work she has done.

Councilor Drake said that he wanted to clarify a Councilor's comment. If the Town spends \$10,000,000 towards a project and the project returns money, the Town can use it against the bond. He said that is not true. If the Town borrows \$10,000,000, it would pay off the loan over the 20 years.

Bonnie Therrien, Town Manager, said that basically what is done is instead of appropriating it through the General Fund, the Town would use those dollars set aside to pay it back over the 20 years.

Councilor Adil said that the question is if the Town gets a return on the project, wouldn't that be used to retire the debt immediately?

Bonnie Therrien, Town Manager, said that the debt cannot be prepaid. The Town Council would not have to use money from the General Fund to pay off the debt, though.

Councilor Walsh said that the taxpayers will not see an increase because the money would not be paid from the General Fund.

Bonnie Therrien, Town Manager, said yes. But the Town can't prepay the debt.

Councilor Forrest said that he has served with the Deputy Mayor for four exceptional years. Her knowledge is remarkable. Her absence will be a huge void on the Council. He said that he wishes her well and thanks her for her work. He said that he and Councilor Kirsche have a long history together going back to the High School Baseball team. He said that it has been a pleasure to serve with Councilor Kirsche. He said that he spent five hours at the Silas Robbins House. He said that this house is second to none. The house is going to be successful and is an absolute gem for the Town of Wethersfield. He said the Open House was a beautiful event for the Town for people throughout the State. He said that there was an incident at the Keeney Cultural Center and asked if the Town had figured out where the voting would be held that was supposed to be held there.

Bonnie Therrien, Town Manager, said that she informed the Registrars of Voters that the Keeney Cultural Center could not be used for voting but has not heard where the voting will be held.

Councilor Forrest asked how residents would be notified of the change in the location of the polling place.

Bonnie Therrien, Town Manager, said that there will be a separate mailing to let voters know the new location.

Dolores Sassano, Town Clerk, said that the Registrars of Voters have decided to have voters in District 2 use the kitchen side of the banquet room, B1 and Districts 7 and 9 will vote in the other side of the banquet room, B2.

Councilor Forrest said that District 2, 7 and 9 will be voting here at the Pitkin Community Center.

Councilor Montinieri said that he wanted to thank the Deputy Mayor for her support of him as a newcomer. He also thanked Councilor Kirsche for his support. He said that when he voted in favor of putting the referendum question forward to the voters he said that is an opportunity for the residents to digest the concern that all share about the condition of the Silas Deane Highway. He said that he grew up in this Town and has seen the normal shift, growth and change. He is concerned about it and has heard others express a concern, too. The Town was looking for a way to jump start the improvements on the Silas Deane Highway. The residents will ultimately decide in a few weeks if it has merit. He is concerned when he hears the tone of the commentary of the public tonight. He said while open dialogue is part of the democratic process, using inflammatory language suggesting mistrust of government is not part of the process. It is his interest to foster something in Town that takes a look at a dilemma that all of the people in Town share. Look at the Silas Deane Highway and see the buildings that aren't going anywhere. No one has stepped forward to make these buildings into vibrant tax generating buildings. The buildings have been sitting for years and not moving. The Town Council has an obligation to its residents to get creative and if they decide the referendum doesn't hold water, they will tell the Town Council. He said that he thinks they are more intelligent than that and share the dilemma and will tell the Council to get creative and make Wethersfield better. He said that he is disappointed to hear the tone. He said that he hopes the referendum stands on its own.

Councilor Walsh said that he wanted to add to all other Councilors' comments regarding Deputy Mayor Fortunato and Councilor Kirsche's service on the Council. He thanked the Deputy Mayor for being a mentor and friend. This Council will miss her very much. He said that it has been a pleasure working with Councilor Kirsche over the past two years. He wished him all the best. He said that it has been a remarkable two years. He said that he thinks there has been only one party-line vote.

Deputy Mayor Fortunato thanked the voters of Wethersfield for giving her the opportunity to represent them for the last four years on the Town Council and the prior eight years on the Board of Education. She said that it has been one of the most rewarding experiences of her life. She said it has been a pleasure serving with the other Councilors. She said that spending so much time together creates friendships. She will turn on her television to watch the Council. She wished Councilor Kirsche all the best. She said that this group has a very ambitious agenda. She said that they are visionaries. She said never lose the vision to keep this Town from being stagnant. She said it has been a pleasure serving under this Mayor. In the brief time the Mayor has served he has brought forward new projects, redevelopment is one of them. She also recognized Bonne Therrien, who has been a pleasure to work with for the past four years and all the Town staff and volunteers. The administrations may come and go but it is the simple servant that is the steward of the resources of the Town. They are a dedicated group of individuals and the Town is very fortunate to have them. She thanked the Councilors for all of their kind words.

Chairperson Adil presented Councilor Kirsche with a plaque and pen set for his service on the Council. He said that for the last two years, the Town Council has really agreed on everything. It has been a pleasure to work with this Council because everyone on the Council has a genuine interest for the Town. He said he was supportive on the Budget and Finance Committee and did a great job with the Youth Advisory Board. He presented Deputy Mayor Fortunato with a plaque and pen set for her service. He said that there will be an intellectual void without her. He said she created a civil environment. She has done a lot of great things to make the Council look good. She has been a big help to him. He said that:

- The movie "An Inconvenient Truth" will be shown on Saturday.
- Choices will be making a presentation on Medicare Part D on November 1st in the Banquet Room at 1 p.m.
- The Home Repair Program will be held. Volunteers will repair 100 homes in the Spring of 2008. For more information call 1-800-887-hope.
- It was his honor to attend the Keane Foundation Gala. It was a beautiful affair. He said the tour has been a huge success. People get behind the events that are worth the money.
- The Redevelopment Agency has been like a child to him. It goes back to preservation that has taken place back in the 1920's. It is ironic that it seems the people most against this idea are the people from Old Wethersfield. He said that it is a group who didn't like what the Town Council had done with projects in Old Wethersfield and with ideas that the Town Council has been trying to promote to make Old Wethersfield a destination place. He

said that is what is causing this. Not what is right or wrong. When buzz words like slush funds and showing maps of homes within the 1,000 foot buffer that they say are going to be taken are outright lies. There are a lot of possibilities for commercial development. If the Town doesn't take this opportunity, the Town Council will only have itself to blame with the results. The last four years the Town Council has done a lot to change the face of the community. This has been a bi-partisan group that has done a lot for this community. The Council deserves the public's respect, not disrespect by going around Town saying things that are not true. The Town is at a crossroads now as it was in the 1920's when the Silas Deane Highway was created and in the 1960's when the Historic District Commission was created.

Councilor Cascio moved **"TO TAKE ITEMS 3.A. AND 4.B OUT OF ORDER IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE RESOLUTIONS"** seconded by Councilor Montinieri.

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

COUNCIL ACTION

Councilor Montinieri moved **"TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION - ENERGY PROCUREMENT COMPANY - WORLD ENERGY SOLUTION, INC."** seconded by Councilor Cascio.

Bonnie Therrien, Town Manager, said that this company is the State preferred bidder for energy auction procurement services. This is something that the Town has been looking into for some time. Mike Turner, Director of Public Works, Lisa Hancock, Finance Director, Christopher Shepard, Nature Center Director, and herself interviewed them and felt that they would do an excellent job for alternate energy sources and at the lowest cost possible.

Councilor Drake said that he would like to see some more information.

Chairperson Adil said that he agrees. He has been approached by some other groups that provide the same services. He brought this idea to the table in an effort to save the Town some money but if there are other sources coming to the Town Council, it has an obligation to hear from them, too. He suggested tabling this tonight.

Councilor Kirsche moved **"TO TABLE THE RESOLUTION - ENERGY PROCUREMENT COMPANY - WORLD ENERGY SOLUTION, INC."** seconded by Councilor Walsh.

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

Councilor Cascio moved **"TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION - SOCIAL SERVICES BLOCK GRANT"** seconded by Councilor Walsh.

Bonnie Therrien, Town Manager, said that this is a yearly grant from the State. This year the money is about \$9,400. This resolution allows her to sign for the grant.

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

OTHER BUSINESS

Councilor Kotkin moved **"TO REFER THE LEASE FOR THE MITCHELL HOUSE PROPERTY WITH MITCHELL SCHOOL ASSOCIATES LIMITED PARTNERSHIP TO THE PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION FOR AN 8-24 REVIEW IN ACCORDANCE WITH CONNECTICUT STATE STATUTES"** seconded by Councilor Forrest.

Bonnie Therrien, Town Manager, said that the current lease holder, CFHA, is in the process of selling its rights in the building over to Mitchell School Associates Limited Partnership. This company is run by Intertown Realty, a small privately owned real estate management company. Their intent is to keep it as elderly housing. The Town leases the land to the owner and the company owns the building. Attorney Steven Nassau, in working with the proposed owner's

Attorney, has put together a more current lease. The motion tonight is to refer the lease to the Planning and Zoning for an 8-24 review. Mr. Riener, the new owner is here tonight if the Town Council has any questions or concerns.

Councilor Drake asked if the Town has made any money on this deal.

Bonnie Therrien, Town Manager, said that she has no idea why this was done as a land lease back in the 1980's. She said that the Town leases the land. The original owners ended up in a financial situation and CHFA came in and took it over and manages it. Mr. Riener has decided to purchase it from them. The Town is proposing a 35 year lease.

Councilor Cascio asked if in this lease, does the Town have restrictions as to the outside of the building, facility maintenance, and parking lot maintenance.

Bonnie Therrien, Town Manager, said that this lease is for the land only. It has nothing in it regarding the building. The other lease didn't either. They own the building and have to follow all the Town regulations. The purchase of the building is with a land lease only and is modeled after the previous one.

Councilor Cascio said that he would hate to have the Town enter a 35 year lease and see this building deteriorate.

Chairperson Adil said that this issue will come back to the Town Council after the Planning and Zoning review.

Councilor Kotkin asked for a clarification of the lease. It says the lease will terminate in 2057, is that a 50 year lease.

Bonnie Therrien, Town Manager, said that she will have to check with the Attorney. There might have been time left on the other lease. She said she would like to check with Attorney Nassau.

Councilor Kotkin said that he would like to know when the original lease would have terminated and when this one would.

Deputy Mayor Fortunato asked about the current occupancy of the building. Are all of the apartments rented now?

Mr. Reiner said that there are three apartments for rent. That has been the history, to the best of his ability, over the last several years.

Deputy Mayor Fortunato said that the paperwork she has says that he will not make any changes to the leases or rent amount now. Is there a time limit to that? Is there the potential for rent increases? How would that be calculated?

Mr. Reiner said that it is his understanding that there has been no rent increase for two years. He has no plans, at this point, of increasing the rents. Beyond the short-term, he cannot answer for that. He said that everything imposed on CHFA is the same for his company. The Attorneys, instead of just reassigning the lease, decided to clean it up.

Deputy Mayor Fortunato asked what is the income eligibility?

Mr. Reiner said that 80 percent of the units are unrestricted and 20 percent are income restricted. That would remain.

Deputy Mayor Fortunato said that the reason she is asking is because when the Board of Education was looking to renovate, it was looking at building a new school or taking Mitchell School back. The owner at the time was having financial difficulty. Her interest would be in talking about the people living there and that they are being taken care of and if increases to rent are considered.

Mr. Reiner said that whenever someone takes over a property, they have to be sensitive to the people living there, particularly when they are elderly. Intertown Reality Company is cognizant of that and true to that so there will not be any changes.

Councilor Cascio said that his questions were answered. He wanted to make sure of the intent to keep it elderly housing.

Councilor Drake said that he was concerned about maintenance of the building, too.

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

Councilor Drake moved **"TO AWARD THE CONTRACT FOR THE KEANE FOUNDATION 9/11 MEMORIAL SPORTS CENTER/COMMUNITY CENTER RENOVATIONS TO GENERAL BUILDERS, 530 SILAS DEANE HIGHWAY, WETHERSFIELD IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$626,000"** seconded by Councilor Kotkin.

Bonnie Therrien, Town Manager, said that she will defer this to the Chairperson of the Committee.

Geoffrey S. Gaunt, 36 McMullen Avenue, Chairperson of the Building Committee, said he would be happy to answer any questions. He said the Committee is here to seek approval of the bid for the gymnasium at the Community Center for the use by townspeople.

Councilor Drake said that this is a no-brainer. The Committee has been working hard. It has gone through a few bid cycles to find interested bidders. The contractor is a Wethersfield contractor so it is a win/win situation. The Committee isn't getting everything that it wanted but this is a good place to get a substantial start. When the next Town Council comes in, he would like to ask that this be looked at to see if the Town can add a little funding to get the project substantially finished.

Chairperson Adil said that he knows that the Town Manager is looking at other possible grants.

Councilor Kotkin asked how long the bids were for and why the Committee decided not to do the meeting room at this time.

Geoffrey Gaunt said that there is a lot of interest in doing all of the projects when the funds are available. The Committee had decided early on to potentially put the meeting room as an alternate once the estimates exceeded the funds. As a facility, the goal is to provide space for athletics and fitness and Town programs. The meeting room is an important part of the facility but the main focus was to get the gymnasium as a space to be renovated and then follow with the fitness room. As the funds are now, the hope is to move forward with the gymnasium.

Councilor Kotkin said that the first project is the gymnasium and the number two priority is the fitness room so the Committee wouldn't want to take funds to do the meeting room.

Geoffrey Gaunt said as a way of prioritizing yes. The Committee has three months in the contract to hold the bids. The Committee has talked with the contractor about an additional 90 days and they seem to be amenable to that. It would be part of the negotiations.

Councilor Montinieri thanked Geoffrey Gaunt for his patience in sitting through the long meeting. He said that it is an amazing feat what this group has done. The fundraising and energy for this foundation in Town is just terrific. Are there any economic deficiencies in breaking the project up like this? Would the Town garner more of the project completed if not broken down? He said that the priority is to get the gymnasium completed, but will the smaller projects end up costing more to complete down the road.

Geoffrey Gaunt said that it would be great to do the project all at once. There would be efficiencies in doing it that way. The hope is to get going on the major project and use whatever time is available from the start date to find available funds and get the other project done as soon as possible.

Councilor Montinieri said that all of the bidders have bid on all parts of the project and are familiar with it. They understand the breakdown. If the gymnasium project starts now with the existing funding, how long will it take?

Geoffrey Gaunt said about 6 months.

Councilor Montinieri said what if three months into the project more funding is available can the project move forward

seamlessly.

Geoffrey Gaunt said that this would be the hope.

Councilor Cascio said that he too thanked the Committee for sitting through the meeting. The goal of the Keane Foundation and Parks and Recreation and all the volunteers will be met. He commended Mrs. Keane for her perseverance and due diligence to make things happen. He said she is a role model to residents of the community. He said that he would love to have a visual on what work will be completed.

Councilor Kotkin said that this is United Way season. One of the options on the Capital Region United Way is to donate to the Keane Foundation. He said that he donated on-line and was able to put 50 percent of his annual donation into the Keane Foundation. This is an option people may not know is available to them.

Councilor Forrest asked if the Committee could mix and match the vendors for the different aspects of the project.

Geoffrey Gaunt said that it is not recommended that the Committee do that. The Committee wouldn't want two contractors working on the same job site. It creates too much confusion.

Councilor Forrest asked if while continuing to raise money, the Committee will look at this bid in the next six months.

Geoffrey Gaunt said that the hope is to get the contractor on board and start the work and talk to them and once they have a sense of the project, they may have an idea on ways to save money or construct something in a way to realize a cost savings. The Committee may look at the scope and decide it can do only so much of the work and ask the contractor if they would work with the Committee.

Deputy Mayor Fortunato asked if the new entrance way was part of the site improvements.

Geoffrey Gaunt said that the new door and vestibule to the gymnasium is all part of area B.

Deputy Mayor Fortunato asked the Director of Parks and Recreation about the floor. She said a number of years ago, the Capital Improvements Committee looked at different materials for the floor and she recommended something. Is that the same flooring in this project?

Kathy Bagely, Director of Parks and Recreation, said that it will be the floor discussed in Capital Improvements. She said that she isn't certain about the pricing.

Deputy Mayor Fortunato said that she wondered if the bids the Town received on the flooring could be utilized for this project to realize a cost savings.

Kathy Bagely, Director of Parks and Recreation, said that the price probably went up some since the discussions were three years ago. The price for the floor is part of the package and the Committee will get the floor that they want.

Deputy Mayor Fortunato said that the Committee has a good amount of money to start the project but needs to raise more to finish all of the pieces. She said that she wonders if some of the larger projects should still be on the Town's radar screen. Some of the projects may have to become the Town's responsibility to fund. Once renovations are started, it needs to be up to ADA and code issues. Someone may feel that they are not given full access to the building and that would be the Town's responsibility. It is important to continue the communication as the project moves forward. In terms of programming, is there a group planning and budgeting for program costs and staff.

Kathy Bagely, Director of Parks and Recreation, said that it has been discussed but nothing has been written out yet. There are a lot of ideas.

Deputy Mayor Fortunato said that she would like to see some program plans since the programs will drive the renovations. She said that the Committee has done really great work. She said some surveying of focus groups may be useful in determining programming since ideas change.

Chairperson Adil said that the Director of Parks and Recreation has done a wonderful job coordinating all of this.

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

Deputy Mayor Fortunato moved **"FOR DISCUSSION PURPOSES TO REFER THE CONTRACT FOR AN ATM MACHINE INSTALLATION TO UNIVERSAL MONEY"** seconded by Councilor Montinieri.

Bonnie Therrien, Town Manager, said that there have been many cases when taxpayers come into the Tax Office to pay uncollected taxes, especially motor vehicle taxes and do not have cash. They have to go and get the cash. Some come back while others do not. This would be a good idea to help them. It has been done in other Towns. The Town will receive \$.75 on any withdrawal over \$250. There is no expense to the Town. The Tax Collector is at the meeting to answer any questions.

Councilor Montinieri said that he is surprised by the difference between the two bids. He said the bidder that will pay the Town is out of Kansas. He asked what the fee to the user would be for the machine. The bank is collecting money somehow. He said he is worried that one bank would charge the Town \$12,000 and the other bank will pay the Town.

Marlene DesJardins, Tax Collector, said she can get that information for the Town Council.

Councilor Drake said that the safety issue is a concern for him. He asked if there was a real benefit to the Town.

Marlene DesJardins, Tax Collector, said that it was more of an act of customer service so that people do not have to go and find a bank. Most of the time they come from the Motor Vehicle Department because they were told they need a release from the Town. The Town then requires them to pay in cash because the rate of bounced checks is so high. It would be a convenience for the taxpayer. Other Towns do have them and they work out well. The machine would be in the lobby of the Tax Office.

Councilor Kotkin asked where it would be located both temporarily and permanently.

Marlene Desjardins, Tax Collector, said that temporarily it could go in the Library or the vendor said it could hold off installing it until the Tax Office is moved back. Permanently, it would be in the lobby of the Tax Office.

Councilor Kotkin said that people at night couldn't access it. It would only be for people paying their taxes. He said it may not work on a temporary basis. He said that he would like to have more time to review this.

Deputy Mayor Fortunato withdrew her motion. Councilor Montinieri withdrew his second.

Councilor Kotkin moved **"TO REFER THE CONTRACT FOR AN ATM MACHINE INSTALLATION FROM UNIVERSAL MONEY TO THE BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE"** seconded by Deputy Mayor Fortunato.

Councilor Montinieri said that he would like to submit some questions to the Budget and Finance Committee.

Councilor Cascio said that he is not opposed to the idea. He thinks it is a great idea. However the Tax Office already has a lot of constraint in it with the glass wall and safety issues. He said adding the ATM would create another space issue.

Deputy Mayor Fortunato said that another question for the other Towns would be their level of staff involvement with the machine and what is the proximity to other ATM's in the area. She said someone could walk to the Corner Store, Mobile and all of the banks on the Silas Deane Highway for money. The Town should look to see if the other communities are similar.

Chairperson Adil said lets make sure motor vehicle knows what the Town's rules are and maybe the Town can circumvent this.

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

Deputy Mayor Fortunato moved "**TO CONTINUE THE MEETING PAST 11:00 P.M.**" seconded by Councilor Forrest.

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

Deputy Mayor Fortunato moved "**TO AUTHORIZE THE TOWN MANAGER TO CLOSE TOWN HALL FOR PUBLIC BUSINESS FOR ONE DAY ON FRIDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2007 TO FACILITATE THE MOVE OF TOWN HALL OFFICES AND ALLOW FOR THE QUICK REOPENING OF THE TOWN HALL TO THE PUBLIC ON THE FOLLOWING MONDAY.**" seconded by Councilor Kirsche.

Bonnie Therrien, Town Manager, said that the first and second floors of Town Hall have to be moved to the Library for the renovations. The offices will be there for a period of nine months. The contractor is feeling that he will be ready to have the offices move. Town staff met with the movers today and feel the move can take place Friday, October 26th. The Town Hall would close to the public, but employees will be working in all offices so that the Town staff can expedite the placement of their materials in the new area so that the Town can open for business at 8:00 a.m. on Monday. There will be heavy, heavy publicity so that everyone is aware of this.

Deputy Mayor Fortunato said that because it is a Friday and if someone needs information or service from the Town and it is heading to a weekend is there some sort of triage that the Town can have in place.

Bonnie Therrien, Town Manager, said that the Registrar of Voters will not move that day because it is too close to the election.

Deputy Mayor Fortunato said that perhaps someone can use the conference room at the Middle School for emergencies. There should be a way for the public to reach Town Hall.

Councilor Cascio said that if the Town publicizes this enough and will the Registrars be open?

Bonnie Therrien, Town Manager, said that she cannot have the public in the building. She could have another area that the public can go to.

Councilor Cascio said that there may be a safety issue with the public going to the Middle School. That would have to be looked into.

Deputy Mayor Fortunato said that her suggestion was for an emergency situation only, and that a contact be available.

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

Councilor Walsh moved "**TO AUTHORIZE THE TOWN MANAGER TO SIGN AND IMPLEMENT THE ATTACHED AFFIRMATIVE ACTION POLICY**" seconded by Councilor Kotkin.

Bonnie Therrien, Town Manager, said that the Town's affirmative action plan has not been updated since the 1980's. Attorney Bradley has recommended that the Town use this as it moves forward with all grant applications.

Councilor Kirsche asked for a clarification. He said that this is something that the Town has to pass in order to apply for grants.

Bonnie Therrien, Town Manager, said that this is correct and it would also go in the Personnel Policies.

Councilor Kirsche said that his only concern is that the Town wants to be equitable in its hiring. He questioned midway through the first page (third paragraph down) it says "(1) review its personnel policies and procedures to ensure that barriers, which unnecessarily exclude protected classes and practices which have an illegal discriminatory impact, are identified and eliminated; ... (3) administer all terms, conditions, privileges and benefits of the employment process in an equitable manner; and" It seems like the two statements contradict each other.

Bonnie Therrien, Town Manager, said that she can't speak for Attorney Bradley.

Councilor Kirsche said that he knows it is legalese but it struck him and he wanted to point it out.

Councilor Walsh said that in light of recent events, the Town Council might look at this with a little more heightened scrutiny. There have been recent incidences at Electric Boat and in schools. These incidences highlight the importance and significance of having affirmative action measures.

Deputy Mayor Fortunato said that the later part of the sentence talks about alternative methods and protective classes. That may be personal disabilities and physical accommodations to perform the job or function.

Councilor Kirsche said that he is supporting it but was questioning some of the language.

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

Councilor Forrest moved **"TO REFER THE ACCEPTANCE OF THE TWO PARCELS OF OPEN SPACE OWNED BY LACAVA CONSTRUCTION TO THE PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE FOR FURTHER REVIEW"** seconded by Councilor Walsh.

Councilor Drake asked why these two parcels and not the rest.

Bonnie Therrien, Town Manager, said that residents are taking care of some of these parcels. There will be minimal work for the Town.

Councilor Cascio said that this has come back to the Town many times. Isn't there a liability issue?

Bonnie Therrien, Town Manager said that this is just two small parcels that LaCava has said they gave the Town the deeds but that they were never recorded. It is only these two pieces.

Councilor Cascio asked if this will catapult the others.

Bonnie Therrien, Town Manager, said that there is no entity for the other parcels. That is the problem. The Town can make the other parcels go to the abutters or take them over.

Councilor Cascio said that this needs an 8-24 review from Planning and Zoning, so why is the Town Council sending it to subcommittee.

Councilor Forrest said that the information he has says it is not deeded to the Town yet. There was a deed but it wasn't accepted. Also, the Town may decide not to approve it to begin with then Planning and Zoning doesn't need to see it. There are liability issues, too.

Chairperson Adil said that he supports moving it to a subcommittee. He said he is concerned about some issues and would like them worked about before it goes to Planning and Zoning, especially since this was supposed to have been given to the Town 30 years ago.

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

Councilor Forrest moved **"TO SET A PUBLIC HEARING DATE OF THURSDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2007 AT 7:00 PM IN THE COMMUNITY CENTER ON THE PURCHASE OF OPEN SPACE, LOT 47, PROSPECT STREET"** seconded by Councilor Kotkin.

Bonnie Therrien, Town Manager, said that she apologizes to the Town Council. She thought that the Town had plenty of time to have the special meeting to have the hearing tonight. She found out afterwards that was not the case. The Ordinance is very specific as to timing. The meeting needs to be rescheduled. The Public Hearing will be on the 25th in the Community Center. The Town Council can vote on it that night, too.

Councilor Cascio said that he will not be in Town that night.

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

BIDS

Councilor Montinieri moved **"TO AWARD THE CONTRACT FOR AUTOMOTIVE AND TRUCK PARTS TO COLUMBIA FORD, ACME AUTO (233 NEWFIELD AVE., HARTFORD) AND MANNY'S AUTO SUPPLY, THE COMBINED BID AWARDS ARE NOT TO EXCEED \$50,000"** seconded by Deputy Mayor Fortunato.

Bonnie Therrien, Town Manager, said that this is an annual bid. The Town tries to go with the bidder that has the product at the lowest price but also those who can get parts to the Town as quickly as possible. The bidders are used as needed.

Councilor Kotkin asked if there is a list of where the Town gets the parts.

Bonnie Therrien, Town Manager, said that she could get a list.

Councilor Kotkin said just as long as it is done in a systematic manner.

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

MINUTES

Councilor Cascio moved **"TO APPROVE THE SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES OF OCTOBER 1, 2007"** seconded by Councilor Montinieri.

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

Councilor Walsh moved **"TO APPROVE THE REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF OCTOBER 1, 2007"** seconded by Councilor Kotkin.

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

Councilor Kotkin moved **"TO APPROVE THE SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES OF OCTOBER 9, 2007"** seconded by Deputy Mayor Fortunato.

Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. Councilor Cascio ABSTAINED. The motion passed 8-0-1.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 11:05 p.m., Councilor Kirsche moved **"TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS UNION NEGOTIATIONS"** seconded by Councilor Montinieri.

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

Also present during executive session were Bonnie Therrien, Town Manager.

At 11:17 p.m., Councilor Walsh moved **"TO LEAVE EXECUTIVE SESSION"** seconded by Councilor Kirsche.

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

ADJOURNMENT

At 11:17 p.m., Deputy Mayor Fortunato moved "**TO ADJOURN THE MEETING**" seconded by Councilor Kirsche. All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 9-0-0.

Dolores G. Sassano
Town Clerk

Approved by vote of Council As amended November 19, 2007