

## **FEBRUARY 22, 2005 REGULAR MEETING**

The Wethersfield Town Council held a meeting on Tuesday, February 22, 2005 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Town Hall.

Present: Councilors Adil, Cascio, Forrest, Fortunato, Hemmann, Montinieri, Deputy Mayor Karangekis and Chairperson Morin.

Absent: Councilor Czernicki.

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 Councilor Forrest.

Chairperson Morin announced that there will be an Executive Session to discuss pending litigation and real estate negotiations following the regular meeting.

### PUBLIC COMMENTS

### HEARING

None.

### GENERAL COMMENTS

Betty Heller Rosania, 88 Desmond Drive, commented on a newspaper article regarding Rocky Hill's 2.8% increase in their grand list. She said that the Rocky Hill Mayor has been quoted as stating that the Town will likely have no tax increase and hopefully a tax reduction. Ms. Rosania said that an increase in the grand list means that there are additional dollars for the Town; therefore she urges the Council to approve the position for an Assistant Town Planner. Ms. Rosania said that Town Planner Peter Gillespie reports to five or six different Commissions, attends their meetings, and prepares minutes of such. She said that in attending to this function, there is not time for Mr. Gillespie to concentrate on developing the Town's grand list. She said that none of the eight surrounding towns she canvassed has only one, two, or even three persons running their Economic Development Department. She said that emphasis has to be placed on getting out and selling Wethersfield rather than sitting around and waiting for development to come to us.

Heidi Lane, 164 Windmill Hill, stated that she is a Wethersfield taxpayer, yet the Wethersfield Taxpayers Association, Inc. does not speak for her and that they should perhaps change their name. Ms. Lane said that the Council has a thankless, unpaid job of serving the Town and that they do the best they can, regardless of whether she always agrees with their decisions. She urged Council members to continue to vote for what is best for Wethersfield.

Charlie Forsdick, 18 Monticello Drive, spoke as Chairman of the Tourism Commission in supporting the appointment of an Assistant Town Planner. He said that the Tourism Commission is very thankful for Mr. Gillespie's support and assistance; however the work is too much for one person to do effectively; therefore he urged the Council to approve the appointment.

Carmella Moore, spoke on behalf of the Wethersfield Chamber of Commerce and the Silas Deane Revitalization Committee. She echoed both Ms. Rosania and Mr. Forsdick's comments on the Assistant Town Planner position. Ms. Moore said that Mr. Gillespie has done a fantastic job; however he is only one person and he cannot do it all. She urged the Council to approve the appointment.

Robert Young, 20 Coppermill Road, stated that there are a number of projects already on the table without funding and that to bring on additional projects would not be prudent at this time. He said that Finance Director Lisa Hancock's funding request for the protection of the Town's electronic data is a higher priority than funding a new employee. Mr.

Young said that it is insulting to make the Dobruck family tag team in order to complete all of their comments at a recent Council meeting. Mr. Young commented on the incompetence of the MDC in maintaining the pipes and that the Town should be complaining to the Federal Government. Mr. Young said that he was impressed with the citizen, Council member, and Commissioner turnout at the MDC's hearing last week; however he does not recall seeing any of Wethersfield's State delegation at the hearing. He said that the LTCP does not take the Wethersfield Cove out of the loop and it is time for the Town to get tough and possibly take legal action. Mr. Young stated that he was surprised to hear that the Town and Board of Education currently have no computer backup in the case of a disaster. Mr. Young said that Chairperson Morin spends Town funds on turf and he needs to spend money to protect the electronic data while controlling costs.

Ron Rodd, 88 Westway, stated that at the last Council meeting he commented on the sewer backup in the Folly Brook area and at that time brought to the Council's attention that part, if not all, of the problem could be caused by Cottone Field drainage. He said that the possibility of this happening was brought forward to the Council in the Minority Decision Report presented to them a year ago. He said that the Council, never the less, voted to go forward with the Cottone Field improvements. Mr. Rodd said that MDC Representative Sally Nyren stated this evening that there is evidence of clear water infiltrating the sewer lines and that it is coming from behind one of the fields. Mr. Rodd said that this confirms the likelihood that the field is contributing to the Folly Brook backup problem and that the engineers of Cottone Field need to be summoned to come forward to ascertain whether or not the Cottone Field drainage is impacting the sewer lines. Mr. Rodd stated that he took a walk along the Heritage Trail between Church Street and Nott Street. He said that intense activity is taking place along the Trail with regard to the sewers and the Trail has suffered because of the work. Mr. Rodd said that he would like to know what is happening on the Trail and what the Town is planning to do to restore the Trail to its original condition.

Rocco Orsini, 95 Broad Street, spoke on behalf of the Wethersfield Taxpayers Association, Inc. He said that he attended the MDC hearing and reminded the Council that it is difficult for the public to gather their thoughts and get their point across when there is a time limit. Mr. Orsini said that Wethersfield's goal has been to get the Cove 100% out of the loop and this is not part of the MDC's LTCP. He said that the Wethersfield Taxpayers Association, Inc. supports and stands firm on the following objectives: (1) no more raw sewage in people's homes, and (2) get the Cove out of the loop. Mr. Orsini submitted to the Town Manager an anonymous letter accompanied by photos that was received by the Wethersfield Taxpayers Association, Inc. and read a portion of the letter referring to various health and safety concerns throughout Town. Mr. Orsini said that the Wethersfield Taxpayers Association, Inc. would like to see the Town's full-time paid staff address these problems.

George A. Ruhe, 956 Cloverdale Circle, spoke as the Vice-President of the Wethersfield Taxpayers Association, Inc. He said that the Association is concerned about misinformation that continues to be spread throughout Wethersfield regarding the upcoming referendum. Mr. Ruhe said that at a recent Council meeting, Deputy Mayor Karangekis asked the Council if the Police and Fire Services would be prohibited under the proposed ordinance to put up emergency lighting. Mr. Ruhe said that common sense says that this will not happen and that the question is inane. He said that questions such as this cause citizens to be concerned about the validity of the question; and there is none. At another recent Council meeting, Chairperson Morin made a statement regarding the Wethersfield Taxpayers Association, Inc.'s comments that the Council does not follow the requirements of the Town Charter and that he respectfully disagreed, based on the opinion of the Town Attorney. Mr. Ruhe said that Chairperson Morin said that this is the opinion of the Wethersfield Taxpayers Association, Inc. and should so be stated. Mr. Ruhe said that the Wethersfield Taxpayers Association, Inc. has said, and will continue to say that as it pertains to what should have been done with the petitions submitted last Spring, this Council did not follow the requirements of the Charter. He said that this is very different than making the statement that the Council does not follow the Charter, and therefore is misleading. Mr. Ruhe also clarified that the proposed ordinance would not prohibit the lighting of one or several flags around Town or lighted Christmas trees. He said that it has been strongly suggested that the ordinance suggests unpatriotism by supporting a yes vote and this is wrong and deserving of an apology.

Jim Clynych, 903 Ridge Road, spoke as a member of the Memorial Day Parade Committee and of the Strategic Planning Committee and stated that at a prior meeting he commented that the proposed ordinance that the Wethersfield Taxpayers Association, Inc. is forcing on the citizens of Wethersfield, at the cost of \$20,000, was not a thought out process. Mr. Clynych said that it was brought about by the Wethersfield Taxpayers Association, Inc. by collecting

petition signatures and suing the Town and residents of Wethersfield. Mr. Clynch commented that the Wethersfield Taxpayers Association, Inc. claims that they are not responsible for this irresponsible action. Mr. Clynch said that the proposed ordinance will negate the lighting of the flag on the green on Main Street and the lighting of the flag on Nott Street and Wolcott Hill Road. Mr. Clynch said that included in the ban will be the luminaries lit during the holiday season. He said that he has been accused by the Wethersfield Taxpayers Association, Inc. of forecasting scare tactics at the last Board of Education meeting because he is warning what the ordinance will bring if it is passed. Mr. Clynch said that the Wethersfield Taxpayers Association, Inc. is not concerned about the residents of Wethersfield and that it is a shame that a small group of people could prohibit lighting on public property at a cost of \$20,000 to Wethersfield residents.

Fred Petrelli, 790 Wells Road, commented that he has served on the Town Council, the Board of Education, and the Tri-Town Health Commission and he has never witnessed such acrimony as he has at tonight's meeting. He said that the Council members should be commended for keeping their mouths shut and listening to outrageous, accusatory language from the public. Mr. Petrelli said that there are 1,500 people who have died in Wethersfield for freedom and the Council needs to keep this in mind when considering the lighting of the flags in Town.

No one else wished to speak and the Chairperson declared the Public Comment segment closed.

### COUNCIL REPORTS & COMMENTS

Councilor Fortunato reported that the Library Board is currently meeting and she was asked by them to announce the kickoff of "One Book, Four Towns" on March 12. Councilor Fortunato reported that during her Councilor hours last week she was visited by a resident addressing the parking problems on Main Street. Councilor Fortunato suggested that this issue be referred to the Traffic and Transportation Committee for review.

Councilor Adil said that he attended the Silas Deane Advisory Committee meeting last week and reported that the Committee is moving forward with plans and recommendations on projects that can tie in with the STEAP grant with Rocky Hill. Councilor Adil also attended the last EDIC meeting and reported that there are many good, new members and that the Committee is moving along with great speed on marketing plans and on the work of the Development Committee. It was suggested that the business survey program be conducted every two years in order to spend more time on the business visitation angle and the implementation of some of the results of the reports.

Councilor Montinieri announced that the Historical Society will be presenting a program titled "Jacqueline Bouvier Kennedy Onassis - An American Original" on March 13. Councilor Montinieri reported that the Webb Building Committee is meeting this evening and that the Committee took a tour of the building two weeks ago and that it is nice to see progress being made. Councilor Montinieri said that a bid was put out for a whole window package rather than windows just for Willow Street. She said that the Committee is awaiting information from Finance Director Lisa Hancock in terms of closing out Silas Deane and Stilman in order to determine the feasibility of the windows. Councilor Montinieri reported that the lift at Marsh Street has been installed and is awaiting a final inspection.

Councilor Forrest reported that the Conservation Committee is in the process of putting together their requests for the upcoming budget. He said that they are requesting \$1,200 for signs for Phase III of the Bike Path; however at a recent meeting it was decided that the funds would be sought from other sources. Councilor Forrest said that the Committee received a State grant last year for Phase II of the Bike Path and they are unfortunately having trouble obtaining this from the State. It is hoped that the Town Manager and State Delegation can chip in to help capture the money already allocated to the Committee.

Councilor Hemmann said that she was pleased to attend and speak at the MDC's public hearing last week. She said that there was a good turnout and that the presentation both then and tonight was very helpful.

Councilor Adil clarified that his comments at the last meeting pertaining to the scoreboard at the Silas Deane Middle School stated that the Board of Education Staff, while overwhelmed with some things, is looking for cooperation from the Town Staff. He said that the level of cooperation has been great so far and he asked the Town Manager for a report on the status of the scoreboard installation.

Councilor Forrest stated that at recent Council meetings there has been an attempt by some of the public to connect the Cottone Field drainage and the project with the MDC sewer problem. Councilor Forrest said that he finds no connection between the two since the Field, if anything, actually acts as a buffer between a major flow and that the MDC problem is much bigger than this. Councilor Forrest said that he finds the comments to be some sort of backlash at the Council as well as disreputable and upsetting. Councilor Forrest reminded the public that the Mayor and Council members are available to talk at any time outside of Council meeting times. Their phone numbers are made available to the public and they are willing to set up time to speak with the public; therefore the public is not limited to only five minutes of comment.

Councilor Cascio announced that the Memorial Day Parade Committee will meet on February 23 to select the Grand Marshal and the Speaker. Councilor Cascio noted that Mr. Ballou Tooker regularly attends Council meetings and offered his sincere condolences on behalf of the Council on the death of Mr. Tooker's wife.

Chairperson Morin said that thanks have been offered to the Town of Wethersfield for the sympathy brought forth to the family of slain Newington Master Police Officer Peter Lavery. Chairperson Morin announced that the "Wethersfield, We Care" trailer is in the parking lot outside the Town Hall and donations are being received for the soldiers overseas. He said that Wethersfield has been very generous with their donations and with their time and that it is greatly appreciated. Chairperson Morin announced numerous community events.

### COUNCIL ACTION

Councilor Cascio moved **"TO ACCEPT THE RESIGNATION OF DENNIS E. O'CONNOR FROM THE INSURANCE COMMITTEE"**, seconded by Deputy Mayor Karangekis. All Councilors present, including the Chairperson, voted AYE. The motion passed 8-0-0.

Councilor Adil moved **"TO APPROVE THE APPOINTMENT OF PETER PATEL TO THE TOURISM COMMISSION FOR THE TERM 2-22-05 TO 6-30-08; CAROL R. BRUCE TO THE TOURISM COMMISSION FOR THE TERM 2-22-05 TO 6-30-07; JOSEPH M. SMITH TO THE CONNECTICUT RIVER ASSEMBLY FOR THE TERM 2-22-05 TO 6-30-08; ELIZABETH M. KIRKPATRICK TO THE CULTURE AND THE ARTS COMMITTEE FOR THE TERM 2-22-05 TO 6-30-05; MARGARET M. WAGNER TO THE PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION FOR THE TERM 2-22-05 TO 6-30-06; AND DEBRA L. HAMMER TO THE HARTFORD-BRAINARD AIRPORT COMMITTEE FOR THE TERM 2-22-05 TO AN UNDETERMINED DATE"**, seconded by Councilor Forrest. All Councilors present, including the Chairperson, voted AYE. The motion passed 8-0-0.

Councilor Cascio moved **"TO APPROVE THE APPOINTMENT OF STEPHEN KIRSCH, JR. TO THE HUMAN RIGHTS AND RELATIONS COMMISSION FOR THE TERM 2-22-05 to 6-30-08 AND CHRISTOPHER HEALY TO THE HARTFORD-BRAINARD AIRPORT COMMITTEE"**, seconded by Councilor Hemmann.

Chairperson Morin pointed out that the Hartford-Brainard Airport Committee appointment has already been filled. Councilor Cascio asked why; therefore, the Republican Town Committee was asked to supply a name for the appointment. Town Clerk Sassano said that both screening committees are notified when there is a vacancy. Councilor Cascio requested that the Town Clerk notify the screening committees of the process.

Councilor Cascio withdrew his motion to appoint Christopher Healy to the Hartford-Brainard Airport Committee and Councilor Hemmann withdrew her second.

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

### UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

### OTHER BUSINESS

### Assistant Town Planner Position

Councilor Adil moved **"TO APPROVE THE ADDITION OF AN ASSISTANT TOWN PLANNER POSITION TO THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT STARTING IN MAY, 2005"**, seconded by Deputy Mayor Karangekis.

Town Manager Bonnie Therrien explained that as part of the current year budget, funds were allocated for a part time secretary for the Economic Development Department; however, despite advertising twice and offering the position to four different individuals, the position remains vacant. She said that an Assistant Town Planner will allow for the current Town Planner, Peter Gillespie, to spend more time on recruiting businesses and tend to other economic development activities. The Town Manager said that there are salary monies that have not been spent this year that can be used toward filling the position and then the position will become part of the budget for next year.

Councilor Adil said that Mr. Gillespie has made a good point in that the Town needs someone, more than a part-timer, with both strong experience and a strong voice to serve and work with various committees toward economic development.

Deputy Mayor Karangekis said that he agrees with Councilor Adil that there is a need for this position and that the full-time aspect of the position will be dealt with at a future date.

Councilor Hemmann said that she is surprised to see this request go from that for a part-time secretary to a request for a full-time Assistant Town Planner. She said that she can support a full-time Administrative Assistant-type position with the understanding that part of the duties would be to attend some of the night meetings. Councilor Hemmann said that she does not support the hiring of an Assistant Town Planner because she does not see that the administrative issues will be addressed by doing so.

Councilor Adil agreed that Councilor Hemmann has some valid concerns and he is aware that the Town Manager will be looking at the secretarial functions to see if any can be taken upon by the new position. Councilor Adil said that the necessity of a full-time secretary position for that office should be reviewed at budget time. Councilor Adil said that Mr. Gillespie's strengths are in the economic development area working with business owners, the community, the Council, and different Committees to develop positive ideas and the proposed position would free him up to do such.

Councilor Fortunato said that the Economic Development Department does need additional clerical support and it was decided that the individual appointed to the proposed position will need to be able to act independently with limited guidance from Mr. Gillespie. The individual will need to have the credentials/experience to perform searches and planning work otherwise done by Mr. Gillespie. This will allow Mr. Gillespie more time to visit with potential businesses coming to Wethersfield. Councilor Fortunato said that the clerical functions and needs of the Department will still need to be examined.

Councilor Cascio asked if the position will ever be able to be removed once it becomes part of the budget. Town Manager Bonnie Therrien said that any position can be eliminated as part of the budget process. Councilor Cascio said that he supports giving support to employees in their work environment and he does not want to see Mr. Gillespie become burnt out from going above and beyond his skills; however there is the need for additional clerical and administrative support as well. Councilor Cascio said that he'd like to see included in the Assistant Town Planner job description, the responsibility for some clerical and administrative duties. He asked if the Council would be voting on the job description tonight along with the approval of the position. Town Manager Bonnie Therrien said that the job description would be separate and that the Town Charter does not indicate that every job description does not have to be approved. Councilor Cascio said that he does not want the position boxed in by not including the administrative duties.

Councilor Montinieri said that Mrs. Rosania, along with the Tourism Commission, the Silas Deane Revitalization Committee, the Chamber of Commerce, and the EDIC, previously made a good argument for the need for the position with regard to the expansion of the Grand List. Councilor Montinieri said that she supports the position.

Chairperson Morin commented that Councilor Cascio has raised some good points and the Council needs to determine whether or not to put this position in for funding. He said that both the Town Manager and Mr. Gillespie will make sure that the person filling the position will be utilized in a way that will best serve the Town.

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

#### Closing out of Purchase Orders - Drainage Projects - URS and Baystate

Councilor Fortunato moved "**TO CLOSE OUT THE PURCHASE ORDERS FOR DRAINAGE PROJECTS 95-D AND 99-A AND TO MOVE THE REMAINING FUNDS INTO THE CAPITAL ACCOUNT RESERVE**", seconded by Councilor Montinieri.

Town Manager Bonnie Therrien explained that when the Staff met with the Capital Improvement Committee to review the requests for capital projects, Town Engineer Mike Turner pointed out that there are two outstanding unneeded purchase orders for drainage programs. It was recommended that this be brought to the Council to close the accounts and start a capital account reserve. It is anticipated that the funds will still have to go toward drainage projects. The Town Manager said that there is \$14,835 left in the Collier Brook project and \$6,775 in the I-291 corridor project.

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

#### Road Construction - Bond Money

Councilor Forrest moved "**TO AUTHORIZE THE TOWN ENGINEER TO PREPARE A LIST OF ROADS FOR WORK WITH THE NOVEMBER BOND FUNDS USING THE ROAD MANAGER SOFTWARE RECOMMENDATIONS ALONG WITH INSERTION OF HEAVILY TRAVELED ROADS AND TO AUTHORIZE THE TOWN MANAGER, DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS AND ONE REPRESENTATIVE OF PHYSICAL SERVICES TO SERVE AS THE BUILDING COMMITTEE**", seconded by Councilor Montinieri.

Town Manager Bonnie Therrien said that she would like to get the road monies disbursed as soon as possible and in the past a list has been generated by use of computer program. She recommends that the worst roads, such as Willow Street, be done as soon as possible along with roads appearing on the computer list.

Councilor Fortunato stated that the recommendation comes from the Infrastructure Committee after review with the Town Manager and Mr. Turner. Councilor Fortunato said that the repair of Willow Street is a nice tie-in with the school coming on-line. She said that Mr. Turner has said that the drainage issue on Willow Street will also be addressed.

Councilor Adil verified with the Town Manager that there will be no loss of LoCIP funds by doing the Willow Street project in this way. The Town Manager said that money already approved will be used and then the bond money. She said that next year's LoCIP will be put toward another road.

Councilor Hemmann said that she was going to recommend that the software not be used as a stand alone indicator of required road repair. She said that listening to the community and visual inspection need to be part of the program.

Councilor Forrest said that he disagrees with Councilor Hemmann. He said that the software program works very well and it provides the most efficient way to pave the roads. He said that the Infrastructure Committee took into consideration that there are select, heavily traveled roads for which a little exception needs to be made since they affect a great majority of the residents of Wethersfield. Councilor Forrest said that for the most part the software will be used in the road repair program.

Councilor Cascio said that he hopes there is good communication with the utility companies to insure that the roads aren't torn up shortly after they are newly paved. He said that the Town should be informed of projects slated by the utility companies.

Chairperson Morin said that Councilor Cascio's point is well-taken. He said that in his years of working with the State DOT, there is often miscommunication with the utility companies.

Councilor Hemmann clarified her previous comment by stating that there needs to be a combination effort in the road repair program. She said that along with the software program, there needs to be a visual component of inspection included.

Chairperson Morin said that he supports the road repair program as there is a great need in Town. He reminded the Council and the public that although these funds have been received, the Council cannot forget their responsibility of funding the Capital portion of the budget to continue on with roadwork in Town.

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

#### New Sidewalk Construction - Bond Money

Town Manager Bonnie Therrien explained that it was recommended that the new sidewalk projects that were part of the bond package be referred to the Infrastructure Committee for review. She said that the projects approved by the voters in the November referendum are: Mapleside Drive, Emerson Williams Parking lot, Willow Street, and Two Rod Highway and that the Committee has recommended that the Council stay with the original proposals. She said that the Committee also recommended that 100% of the new sidewalks be paid by the Town. The Town Manager said that she had the Town Attorney research whether this can be done and he said that the Council has the right, via the Bond Ordinance and the present Ordinance, to allow for 100% to be paid by the town. She said that the Town Attorney pointed out that the explanatory text indicates that the property owners will pay 50% of the cost of the new sidewalks; however the Bond Ordinance supercedes the explanatory text in stating that the Town Council, once the Bond passes, will finalize the project and any type of funding. The Town Manager said that the Council can change the Ordinance to 100%, but she recommends that a public hearing be held to make sure that the public is aware of the change and to obtain any feedback.

Councilor Fortunato moved **"TO AUTHORIZE THE FOLLOWING SIDEWALK PROJECTS:**

<b>MAPLESIDE DRIVE, WEST SIDE, WELLS ROAD TO DALE ROAD</b>	<b>\$85,000</b>
<b>EMERSON WILLIAMS PARKING LOT, COMPLETE GAP</b>	<b>\$10,000</b>
<b>WILLOW STREET, WEST SIDE, COMPLETE GAPS</b>	<b>\$60,000</b>
<b>TWO ROD HIGHWAY, OLD RESERVOIR TO HIGHLAND STREET</b>	<b>\$75,000</b>

**FOR A TOTAL OF \$230,000"**, seconded by Deputy Mayor Karangekis.

Councilor Adil moved **"AMENDED THE MOTION TO SET THE PUBLIC HEARING DATE OF MONDAY, MARCH 7, 2005 ON THE ISSUE OF THE TOWN PAYING 100% OF THE COST OF THE NEW SIDEWALKS LISTED ABOVE"**, seconded by Councilor Forrest. All Councilors present, including the Chairperson, voted AYE. Councilor Hemmann voted NAY. The motion passed 7-1-0.

Councilor Hemmann expressed her concern that language put into an explanatory text needs to be abided by and not changed after the fact. She said that the Ordinance for the assessment of the sidewalks has been in place for a number of years and the change in language already voted on by the Council may have affected the vote.

Councilor Adil said that he has been a firm supporter of the 100% paid by the Town from the start and he can understand the confusion over what is stated in the Charter. Councilor Adil said that the Charter states that up to 50% can be assessed and this may have been misinterpreted as being a forced 50%. He said that after careful review the Charter states that "the Council shall establish and/or the final assessment against each property owner based on the calculation made by the Public Works Director". He said that it is up to the Council to set the assessment and that sidewalk repairs require reimbursement; however new sidewalk work has never been assessed to the property owner.

Councilor Cascio said that the Town of Wethersfield did assess 50% of the cost of new sidewalks to residents in the

Middletown Avenue area in the late 1980's.

Councilor Fortunato said that the public hearing will give the public the opportunity to come and speak on this topic and provide the Council with more information in order to make a final decision. She said that at the Infrastructure Committee meeting there was consensus that the Committee review the Ordinance again to determine if it is outdated and to make possible clarifications and/or modifications.

Councilor Forrest said that he has supported a 0% levy for new sidewalks on the homeowners all along and that the Council was being forthright with residents by stating in the explanatory text that there may be a 50% assessment.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson, voted AYE. Councilor Cascio and Councilor Hemmann voted NAY. The motion passed 6-2-0.

#### Summer Hours - Physical Services

Deputy Mayor Karangekis moved "**TO AUTHORIZE THE TOWN MANAGER TO APPROVE SUMMER HOURS OF 6:30 AM TO 2:30 PM WITH A 15 MINUTE JOB SITE LUNCH BREAK, FOR THE PHYSICAL SERVICES STAFF BEGINNING ON MARCH 27, 2005 AND ENDING ON OCTOBER 30, 2005**", seconded by Councilor Montinieri.

Chairperson Morin said that this item comes up every year and the Town Manager has mentioned that it benefits both the Town and the employees.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson, voted AYE. Councilor Cascio and Councilor Hemmann voted NAY. The motion passed 6-2-0.

#### BIDS

##### Street Sweeping/Catch Basin/Storm Sewer Cleaning Services

Councilor Montinieri moved "**TO AWARD A CONTRACT TO WETHERSFIELD SWEEPING SERVICE FOR STREET SWEEPING AND CLEANING OF CATCH BASINS AND STORM SEWERS, AS NEEDED, IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$93,000**", seconded by Councilor Adil. All Councilors present, including the Chairperson, voted AYE. The motion passed 8-0-0.

Chairperson Morin said that the Council has heard discussions about the budgetary implications of Phase II of the NPDES mandated by the EPA and the criteria includes that the roads must be swept at least once per year and the cleaning of catch basins to remove sediments with a goal of once every three years.

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

#### ORDINANCES, RESOLUTIONS, APPOINTMENTS FOR INTRODUCTION

None.

#### MINUTES

Councilor Forrest moved "**TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF FEBRUARY 7, 2005 AS AMENDED**", seconded by Councilor Montinieri.

Councilor Fortunato amended the minutes to strike her comments on page 16947 stating "Councilor Fortunato urged the Council to provide budget increases to the Library in the areas related to the renovations" to read instead "Councilor Fortunato informed the Council the Library anticipates increases to their budget as a result of the renovations, i.e. custodial services".

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

## **ADJOURNMENT**

At 8:52 p.m., Councilor Hemmann moved "**TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SEESSION**" seconded by Councilor Forrest. All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 8-0-0.

Deputy Mayor Karangekis left the Executive Session at 8:55 p.m.

At 9:16 p.m., Councilor Adil moved "**TO ENTER BACK INTO THE REGULAR MEETING**" seconded by Councilor Cascio. All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 7-0-0.

At 9:16 p.m., Councilor Adil moved "**TO ADJOURN THE MEETING**" seconded by Councilor Hemmann. All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 7-0-0.

Dolores G. Sassano  
Town Clerk